

Hafa Adai!

Man allegedly lied to a federal officer. **PAGE 3**

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75¢

BOE stands by COE selection



By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Pending a review by the Office of the Attorney General, Cynthia Deleon Guerrero officially assumes the office of Commissioner of Education effective today.

The Board of Education stood pat in its decision to appoint Deleon Guerrero as COE during an emergency meeting last Friday at the Public School System's Federal Grants Office.

The board recognizes that many disapprove the selection process and is looking at a third party to review the process to "make

sure we didn't do anything illegal or improper, and we followed the

RELATED NEWS

► The BOE hiring disaster.

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See BOE on Page 4

JAPANESE GAME

Imada Hiromu helps teach a child who volunteered to come up on stage during a Kendama demonstration held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on Nov. 19. Professional Kendama player Imada Hiromu, assisted by the Consular Office of Japan, held a three-day Kendama presentation at the hotel. The demonstrations lasted about an hour and had Hiromu, along with a representative of the Consular Office, instructing the public on how to play the game.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS

Story on Page 4

'BSI complies with federal laws'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said that Best Sunshine International, Ltd., which operates the Best Sunshine LIVE casino at the T Galleria, complies with federal laws under Title 31 or the Banking Secrecy Act, which assists U.S. government agencies in detecting and preventing money laundering activities.

See BSI on Page 4

Absentee ballots processed today, counting tomorrow

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission will start processing today, Monday, the 984 absentee ballots, and will collect other absentee ballots

tomorrow, Tuesday for counting.

CEC administrative officer Kayla Igitol said the public is welcome to watch the processing of 984 absentee ballots at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

The 984 absentee ballots are those

that arrived at the Saipan post office last Nov. 8. CEC expects more absentee ballots to arrive at the post office on or before the scheduled tabulation tomorrow; a total of 1,699 absentee ballots were sent out.

Igitol said the 984 absentee ballots

will be checked today if voters complied with all the requirements. She said all absentee ballots will be tabulated tomorrow.

Only those absentee ballots that are postmarked on or before Nov. 8 will

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INSIDE



NATION

Campaigns have sprung up to persuade the Electoral College to deny Donald Trump the presidency.

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ASIA

Family and followers of dictator Ferdinand Marcos gather for a vigil at his tomb.

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LIFE & STYLE

Set accidents remain largely hidden and the consequences usually amount to mere fines.

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Local

Stress Free Holiday Fair getting bigger



technicalities were altered to combine the event with the Family Caregivers Awareness Month celebration in order to incorporate the giving of baskets to family caregivers.

Diana Camacho, executive director for Ayuda Network and director for the Commonwealth respite service program, said, "It's kind of rowdy here tonight. Usually the stress free event indulges mothers, sisters-in-law, or grandmas for all their support in their family's lives and participating in our activities year-round. So we tend to give them some time to unwind before the Christmas season."

The event included teaching participants how to wrap gifts, make *mwars*, as well as offered haircuts and nail treatments along with entertainment.

"We're impressed! The crowd is getting bigger and bigger each year, not necessarily in mothers but in sisters-in-law and ladies, even kids. Tonight we had a children's corner provided by the Division of Youth Services that allowed parents to not have to worry about their children and just unwind," Camacho said. "On behalf of the Ayuda Network and all our partners supporting us, we would like to give our thanks to everyone tonight for participating in the event. Also, the Family Caregiver's Awareness Month is about health as well. Family caregivers should take care, to give care for our family members." (Michael T. Santos)

Attendees follow along for another stress-relieving exercise called Zumba during the 10th annual Stress Free Holiday Fair at Garapan Central Park on Nov. 19.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS

The community came in droves to take part in this year's Stress Free Holiday Fair hosted by the Ayuda Network Inc. and its sponsors.

The event was held last Saturday at the Garapan Central Park. The holiday fair is usually held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in past years, but due to the counting of absentee ballots for the election, Ayuda Network had to relocate the venue.

Chielo Sayas, an attendee, said, "It feels good to be here. Despite the loud music, I still find myself relaxed. I particularly liked the Zumba [exercise], although I didn't participate."

Saturday night marked the 10-year celebration of the holiday fair. Usually an annual event for women,

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Man allegedly lied to a fed officer

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered last week the continued detention of Guo Hua Lu, who was recently arrested for allegedly lying to a federal officer.

At a hearing, Manglona determined that no combination of conditions will assure that Lu will appear in court. Also, Manglona cited the weight of evidence against Lu, saying it is strong; his lack of a stable residence; his lack of ties in the CNMI; and the fact that he may be deported after being imprisoned.

Lu is being charged with a count of false statement to a federal officer, which carries a sentence of five years imprisonment.

Manglona said the charge stems from Lu's role in generating fake documents in support of another individual's application for a U.S. passport.

She said it is not unusual for those involved in handling fake document to have fake documents themselves. Manglona said that Lu may have the ability to flee Saipan and avoid being held accountable for his crime.

Manglona noted that there are audio recordings between Lu and some people as well as "WeChat" text messages between him and a woman showing that Lu requested her U.S. visa, official Chinese identification card, and a passport-sized photo.

The exhibits, the judge said, go to the weight of the evidence in establishing the charge against Lu.

Manglona said while there has been no physical injury to the victim, there has been deception in the form of fraudulent

documentation, as well as fraudulent statements to law enforcement.

Manglona cited that Lu has one criminal conviction in March 2003 in the Superior Court for assault and battery. Lu has no other conviction in the past 20 years.

Manglona said the U.S. government's additional exhibits chronicle various investigations wherein Lu is implicated.

Manglona said these are not convictions, and they did not materialize into any formal charges.

The judge found that Lu has no family ties on the island as his wife and daughter both live in China.

Manglona said Lu is only an employee at a business and currently lives at the company office in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

As a foreign worker holding a CW-1 immigration permit, Lu's ability to remain in the CNMI is limited to an annual basis, and no later than December 2019 when the CW-1 program expires, Manglona said.

Lu pleaded not guilty to the charge. Attorney Benjamin Petersburg is the court-appointed co-counsel for Lu. Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto represented the U.S. government.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy set the jury trial for Jan. 10, 2017.

According to the indictment, on Oct. 6, 2016, Lu lied to Diplomatic Security Services special agent Vincent Carpenter at Lu's office on Saipan.

Lu allegedly admitted the fixed the application form for which the fraudulent notarial certificate was prepared.

WeChat text messages between Lu and Shi allegedly showed she (Shi) sent him her U.S. visa, official Chinese identification card, and a passport-sized photo, at Lu's request.

The Chinese identification card number and the passport-sized photo were allegedly used in the preparation of the fraudulent notarial certificate. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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Tourist sues PIC for fractured elbow

A Russian tourist is suing the Pacific Islands Club Saipan after she allegedly fractured her elbow after falling down PIC's stairs in 2015.

Irina Batukhtina, a citizen of the Russian Federation, is suing InterPacific Resorts (Saipan) Corp., which does business as Pacific Islands Club Saipan, for alleged negligence.

Batukhtina, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold InterPacific Resorts liable for pay her unspecified damages and court costs.

Batukhtina is demanding a jury trial.

Batukhtina alleged that she lost wages and income as a result of her injuries and was required to spend money for personal assistance, medicines, and medical supplies, which totals more than \$100,000.

According to Fitzgerald in the complaint filed last week, Batukhtina traveled from Yakutsk to Saipan in late December 2014 for a vacation with her son.

In her complaint, she alleged that, as she and her son were descending the stairs on Jan. 2, 2015, to go to a store on the ground level, the heel of her shoe got stuck in a depressed area of the steps, causing her to pitch forward and fall down to ground level.

Fitzgerald said a Russian-speaking manager, Anna Yashkova, together with a young man with a first-aid kit and another man with a paper in his hand, helped Batukhtina to a chair.

Fitzgerald said the man with the paper asked her to sign it, telling her it was to confirm that she did not want to go to

a hospital.

The lawyer said Batukhtina was in severe pain at that time and had bruises and scratches on her arm. A PIC staff put ointment and a bandage on the scratches.

After some time, Batukhtina returned to her room to rest and put ice in her arm. The pain in her elbow did not subside, however, and the elbow began to swell.

Batukhtina then went to the front desk and asked Yulya, a Russian-speaking front desk clerk, to take her to the hospital.

Fitzgerald said Yulya, after making a phone call, told Batukhtina that it would be difficult to take her to the hospital, but that she could arrange to take her to a clinic.

Fitzgerald said Batukhtina asked Yulya to arrange an appointment with a doctor that

day, but Yulya said it was impossible and instead asked the plaintiff to wait until the next day, and arranged an appointment for 8:50am on Jan. 3, 2015.

Fitzgerald said Batukhtina spent the evening of Jan. 2, 2015, in severe pain, unable to sleep.

Fitzgerald said finally, the next morning, Yashkova arranged for a PIC staff member to take Batukhtina to the Marianas Medical Center and drop her off, promising to come back and pick her up.

The doctor at the Marianas Medical Clinic ordered an X-ray, and told plaintiff her elbow was fractured. Fitzgerald said the doctor was shocked to find out that Batukhtina had not gone to the hospital.

Fitzgerald said Yashkova failed to return to the clinic

to pick up Batukhtina. PIC finally sent a car to pick the plaintiff up. Plaintiff did not get back to the hotel until 2pm.

Fitzgerald said plaintiff spent the next week in severe pain and discomfort and returned to MMC on Jan. 10, 2015. An MMC doctor put a cast on her arm.

Fitzgerald said that, on Jan. 18, 2015, plaintiff and her son returned to their home in Yakutsk, Russia.

Fitzgerald said the next day, Batukhtina visited an orthopedic surgeon, who informed her that she had suffered a closed fracture of the left elbow and needed immediate surgery. The surgeon sent Batukhtina directly to the hospital, where arrangements were made for surgery. On Jan. 20, 2015, plaintiff checked into the hospital and surgery was performed that evening.

Fitzgerald said the surgery involved the scraping and re-aligning of bones and insertion of titanium screws into the bone of her elbow. Fitzgerald said the surgery caused stress and mental suffering to Batukhtina since she was awake and forced to view and experience the procedure as it was being conducted.

Plaintiff was hospitalized for nine days.

Fitzgerald said after her return to work, plaintiff continued to have pain in her elbow and consequently underwent a second surgery on June 9, 2015, and was on disability leave until June 25, 2015.

Fitzgerald said that, on May 24, 2016, plaintiff was admitted to the hospital for a third surgery and was discharged on May 26, 2016. She was on disability leave until June 7, 2016. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Roofed soccer field eyed in Koblerville

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

A soccer association is planning to build the first ever soccer field with an artificial turf and a 1,200-seat capacity stadium in Koblerville along As Gonno Road, near the Koblerville fire station.

The soccer field is project-

ed to cost \$1.5 million.

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association applied for a conditional use application with the Commonwealth Zoning board, expressing its desire to construct a roofed soccer field.

Situated in Koblerville, the roofed soccer field, to be named the NMI Soccer Training Center, would be

standing on an area of 40,000 square meters and is estimated to be about 40 feet high.

The two-story structure would be composed of a soccer pitch and upper and lower floors for spectator seating and a few other facilities on the ground floor.

The property, which has no existing structures and is currently unused, is owned

by the NMIFA, which was represented in the application by NMIFA general secretary Rosauro Zapanta.

The Zoning board, headed by board chair Diego C. Blanco, would be bringing up the application for approval in their board meeting on Dec. 1, at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School in San Roque.

Japan consulate, player make demo of Kendama

People of Saipan were in for a treat when professional Kendama player Imada Hiro-mu, assisted by the Consular Office of Japan, held a three-day Kendama presentations on the island.

The demonstrations lasted about an hour each and had Hiromu, along with a representative of the Consular Office, teaching the public on

how to play the game.

Venues on Saipan included the Garapan Night Market on Nov. 17, the Office of Aging and at Fiesta Resort and Spa on Nov. 18, and finally at Granvrio Resort on Nov. 19.

Keichi Daisuke, a child participating in the demonstration, said, "I used to watch my older brother and his friends do this. It's hard but fun."

Toshio Matsumura, consul of the Consular Office of Japan, said, "I feel great about helping teach Kendama to the people of Saipan. Hiromu is a professional player from Japan who decided to come here so I wanted to assist and allow people to see his skills."

"We did not obtain that many people for the Ken-

dama presentation but the ones who did appear were really nice and participated with us," Matsumura said. "Kendama is something from Japan's oldest culture. I want to spread the Japanese culture to Saipan and luckily for me, Imada Hiromu came from Tokyo so it helped with the process." **(Michael T. Santos)**

BOE

From Page 1

law pursuant to our authority under the constitution and law," said BOE chair Herman Guerrero.

In a statement on Sunday, the board said that two questions have been raised regarding Deleon Guerrero's appointment: her qualifications for the job and whether she was involved in the process, being the head of the PSS Human Resources.

"Mrs. Deleon Guerrero has met the qualifications that were advertised. She has the requisite amount of both classroom experience and administrative experience. Her time as an administrator at the Northern Marianas College is relevant experience and was properly considered in her ap-

plication. Furthermore, Mrs. Deleon Guerrero properly recused herself from the selection of the Commissioner of Education. This was made known to her staff, the board, and to the legal counsels. She did not participate in any way or have any information in advance, or information that was not shared with the other candidates," the statement adds.

It said Board of Education stands by its selection, the process it followed, and its new Commissioner of Education, Deleon Guerrero.

However, because of public concerns, the board has asked the Office of the Attorney General to review the candidates, their qualifications, and the process of their selection.

Guerrero said if the selection process proves clean, the BOE would then push through with Deleon Guerrero's ap-

pointment. As of now, the decision to appoint her remains.

"If we made a mistake, perhaps the board will rectify that, but at this time, we cannot just keep dragging it. We need to move forward," he said.

Guerrero did clarify however, that the decision still depends on the third party's review of the selection process.

"We need to have it reviewed. [To check if] we followed the law and all of the concerns that were raised. If we did, then whatever the decision is, the board will review and make a final decision based on that," he said.

"Cyndi [Deleon Guerrero] will assume responsibility, starting Monday," he added. "We cannot just keep delaying it or putting it on hold at this time."

Guerrero said the third party—in this case, the OAG—

would be reviewing whether or not the BOE was transparent in its selection process, according to the complaints of some teachers.

"We are giving the selection process to see whether or not we have complied with the Constitution and also what we said [in regards to] how we were going to do the process," Guerrero said. "Any other complaints in terms of transparency and everything is the reason why we wanted to make sure. [To see if] we followed what we said we were going to do, what the law is, and what our authority is under the constitution."

"The legal counsel is looking into those things already," Guerrero said.

The statement said the board will provide the AG's office any and all information it requests and will await its review.

BSI

From Page 1

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network or FinCEN is one of those agencies under the U.S. Department of the Treasury that gathers information and investigates activities related to local and international money laundering, and other financial crimes.

Deleon Guerrero was reacting to a Bloomberg report last week that alleged that Treasury is looking into the operations of Imperial Pacific International, noting that gambling tables at BSI's temporary facility in Garapan is almost empty.

Bloomberg questioned BSI's claim about its cash flow per table.

"I can't confirm nor deny that [IPI-BSI] is under FinCEN investigation. [FinCEN] does not usually inform those whom they are investigating and we're not aware of a special investigation," Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said it wouldn't be any surprise if FinCEN is indeed conducting an investigation, adding that this could be just routine inquiry to make sure there are no illegal activities slipping under their radar. "It is not as if they've done something wrong, [BSI] is submitting their reports to [FinCEN]." "It is an irrelevant issue if FinCEN is doing an investigation but you don't need to be alarmed if you are com-

plying," said Deleon Guerrero, who added that it is normal to be investigated in this kind of industry.

He said violating anti-money laundering laws enforced by federal law enforcement agencies like FinCEN is the quickest way for a casino to fold. "For the casino to die the quickest way is to violate the AML laws. FinCEN enforces the laws."

"For Bloomberg to say something like they are under investigation is maybe a business way of addressing a competitor. FinCEN issues federal regulations under Title 31. And BSI also has its own regulatory oversight."

Deleon Guerrero said he thinks this is purely business. "If Best Sunshine Live inside a temporary casino inside a mall can outpace and outperform big name casinos is purely business. It is bad for competitors and it appears its business rivalry, since Saipan is a competitor. I can tell you the numbers are real. We are watching, documenting, and tracking it."

"For Bloomberg to allude that they are being investigated by the U.S. Treasury, I don't know since FinCEN is a federal agency. But [BSI] does have an AML program and they submit cash transfer reports and report suspicious activities in compliance with Title 31. They report on the things happening inside the VIP rooms."

ABSENTEE

From Page 1

be accepted.

The CEC board will meet today and tomorrow. The commissioners are expected to formally announce them as members of the tabulation committee for absentee ballots. Igitol earlier stated that a

machine will be used to count the absentee ballots.

After the tabulation of the absentee ballots, the commissioners will then certify the results of the Nov. 8 general election.

The absentee ballots are crucial to candidates who have close edges over their rivals such as the Rota Senate position.

'Couple not 'coyotes' in the business of smuggling aliens

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Francisco Muña Tydingco and his wife, Lili Zhang Tydingco, who were both convicted of harboring an illegal minor, are not "coyotes" who are in the business of smuggling aliens across borders, according to their defense lawyer.

Bruce Berline, counsel for Lili Tydingco, said the Tydingcos merely tried to do a family friend a favor.

Berline said the openness of the Tydingco couple's actions—declaring their intent

upon arrival at the Saipan airport, filing the guardianship documents with the CNMI Recorder's Office, and enrolling the child in public school—show that their offense is not like those normally contemplated by federal statute and by the sentencing guidelines.

In Lili Tydingco's case, Berline recommended a sentence of three years probation, saying it is sufficient to effectuate the purposes of sentencing.

He said Lili Tydingco has a long history of employment; she is the primary caretaker

and breadwinner for her family, including an infant child; she has no criminal history; she is facing severe consequences in the form of possible deportation; and her innocent children are facing the possibility of losing one or both parents for a significant period of time.

"Under these circumstances, a variance is warranted and justified," Berline said.

The Tydingco couple would be sentenced on Nov. 30 at 1:30pm.

Last June, a federal jury found the Tydingco couple

guilty of one count of harboring an alien. That carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment.

Berline said Lili Tydingco has been continuously employed since her arrival on Saipan 20 years ago. He said she is self-reliant, has always worked to take care of herself and her family, has no criminal history, and does not use drugs or drink alcohol.

Lili Tydingco met Francisco Tydingco on Saipan in 2006 and got married that same year. They now have three children, ages 7 and 6 years

old and about 18 months.

Berline said Lili Tydingco is the breadwinner for the family as Francisco Tydingco does not work and has not had a job for quite some time.

The lawyer said Lili Tydingco takes care of most of work at home: cooking, cleaning, and caring for the children.

Berline said Lili Tydingco has lost several jobs as a result of media attention to this case.

He said the work that Lili Tydingco has been able to find is low-paying and labor intensive as opposed to her previous job working at DFS and

Century Tours.

As a result of Lili Tydingco's job changes, Berline said, the family has struggled to pay for essentials.

"The stress of an uncertain future coupled with dire present circumstances has taken a significant toll on Lili Tydingco and regularly keeps her awake at night," Berline said.

While of offense of harboring an illegal alien can be quite serious in some circumstances, Berline said the circumstances of Lili Tydingco's offense warrant a much lower sentence.

In this case, Berline pointed out, Lili Tydingco was provided with documents making

See ALIENS on Next Page



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15 complete Best Sunshine's Baccarat dealer course

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Fifteen individuals comprise the first batch that completed Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Baccarat dealer training course, receiving their certificates in a simple ceremony held Thursday night at BSI's temporary office at the fourth floor of the Bank of Guam building in Garapan.

The training started in early September and ended last week. The original group numbered more than 20 but only 15 completed the 160-hour course.

Imperial Pacific International chief operating officer Yiu Ling Kwong congratulated and welcomed the 15 to the BSI family. "Today we celebrate the first batch of individuals that completed the

dealer training course."

"We're surprised that the dropout rate is only 10 percent. You will be the first priority when it comes to hiring dealers. Now comes a memorable moment of your life. Congratulations for working so hard and we are going to see you working the casino tables pretty soon."

BSI offered the training course to residents and U.S. citizens. The 15 that completed the course, where they also learned security regulations and other aspects of the gaming industry, also had to pass a final exam.

"Apart from your skills, it is important to know compliance and how to serve our customers. These are among the important parts of the service industry and observed by the entire gaming industry," said

Kwong, who was joined by other IPI and BSI officials.

Samantha Aderwangel, who represented the group, said they were pleased and relieved for completing the course. "On behalf of my fellow students, it has been a great privilege to be given the chance to learn and finish the course."

"We survived all the frustrations and nervousness and we've come a long way in finishing our 160 hours. It is nice to be part of this training when BSI opened its doors. The lessons would help us get to the next stage as we put to use the technical skills that we learned," she said.

"We can't stand on our own. We have mentors who are dedicated in helping us complete the tasks at hand. We are grateful to the company's

support," added Aderwangel, who was among four women that completed the course.

In a statement, BSI said that aside from providing a variety of job opportunities for residents and U.S. citizens on Saipan, they are also committed to educating the local workforce to learn more about the gaming industry.

"The Baccarat Dealing Course by BSI was the first systematic and technical course being introduced to local students. This has been an extensive and rigorous 160-hour training course," said the statement.

General gaming procedures, technical Baccarat skills and knowledge, the casino services standard and how to deal with irregularities, and special circumstances of table games are the things that the trainees

learned in the close to two-month course.

There were 18 who started the course—13 locals, two Employment Authorization Document holders, two green card holders, and one CW1 (CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nonimmigrant visa)—but three dropped out.

"And now they have been trained to be professional Baccarat dealers that could assist when the Imperial Pacific Resort opens next year," added BSI in the statement.

BSI praised the perseverance of the trainees. "The company recognizes these trainees who have committed their time and effort for participating in the course and building a new career in the gaming industry."

Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero, Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward

Deleon Guerrero, CCC chair Juan M. Sablan, and vice chair Joseph C. Reyes were the other local officials that attended the ceremony.

CPA, CDA now exempted from salary cap

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog signed into law Thursday a bill that exempts the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the Commonwealth Development Authority from the salary limits imposed by the Compensation Adjustment Act.

The CAA limited the salaries of both CPA and CDA members. Prior to the CPA being exempted as a whole, the salary cap exempted only CPA managers and CPA port managers.

House Bill 19-139, HD1, now signed into law as Public Law 19-71, exempts members of the CPA, CDA, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. from the CAA, which capped government employee salaries to no more than \$50,000 annually.

HB 19-139's author, Rep. Antonio Sablan (R-Ind), thinks that exempting CPA and CDA from the salary cap helps retain officials.

"[Over the past couple of years], we've come across problems with the salary structure in the government. I think that the limitation on the salary cap is in some ways detrimental to how we operate and maintain well experienced and qualified people in the government," said Sablan. "It basically limits the advancement of people, and so well trained and experienced people tend to look elsewhere," he added. (Erwin Encinares)



JON PEREZ

Imperial Pacific International chief operating officer Yiu Ling Kwong, center, joins company and local government officials, and the first batch that completed the Baccarat Dealer Training course in last Thursday night's simple ceremony at Best Sunshine International's temporary office at the Bank of Guam building in Garapan.

ALIENS

From Page 5

her and Mr. Tydingco the legal guardians of the child by the

minor's parents for the purpose of bringing her to Saipan to go to school and learn to speak English.

Berline noted that the child's parents had been to

Saipan before and her sibling was born on Saipan, so the trip was not to a particularly foreign or unknown place.

The Tydingcos traveled to China, where they met with

the child's parents and the child traveled with them back to Saipan.

The child was enrolled in public school and the guardianship documents were filed

with the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Here, Berline said, there was no violence and no dangerous or abusive conditions. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Friends of JKPL raises more than \$10K at fundraiser

A total of \$10,000 was raised during the 2nd Annual Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament Fundraiser held Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's west course.

Acting JKPL director Erlinda Naputi said a total of 80 golfers took part in the double Peoria tournament.

"We [had] 80 golfers in participation—nearly double of what we achieved during our first annual golf tournament fundraiser more than four years ago. We have over 12 corporate sponsors pledging monies, donations, contributions, manpower, and support in ensuring this event [would] be a success. For those of you

who have never participated in our first golf tournament fundraiser, you are in for a real treat and those returning golf players, we welcome you back," she said.

Naputi said the 2nd Annual Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament Fundraiser was an overwhelming success.

"The weather was perfect! The Laolao Bay Golf [& Resort] course was in spectacular condition, and we are already looking forward to planning our 3rd...fundraiser," she said.

Harry Nakamura came in first place, while second placer Nick Sablan gave back his winnings from the event. Feng Chun Jin received third place, David Lar-

gent got fourth, and Seung Woo Kang finished at fifth.

For the optional play/side bet competition, Joe Itibus won closest to the pin on hole No. 3, Tars Olopai on hole No. 7, and Joey Dela Cruz on hole No. 13, Jeon Young Im almost won the \$5,000 hole-in-one prize on hole No. 7 and Seung Woo Kang won the longest drive.

The other hole-in-one prize was a brand new Kia Rio.

Corporate sponsors of the event included Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, Best Sunshine Corporate and Social Responsibility Team, Joeten Dai Dai Foundation, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc, Lao Lao Bay Golf Re-

sort, GREE Air Conditioning, Kilili for U.S. Congress, Triple J, MARPAC, Pacific Trading Co. Ltd, Megabyte, J's Restaurant, Kanoa Resort, T-Galleria DFS, Carpet Masters, Governor Ralph Torres, Rep. John Paul Sablan, volunteers under the supervision of Jose Naputi: Jeremy Agulto, Kai-toYanai, Kyle Fabia, Enrique Rabauliman, Christian Arceo, Patrick Arceo, Jack Lizama, Michael Fitial, DJ Mendiola, Shine Tenorio, Ray Saralu, Dustin Palacios, Eugene Villagomez, and Nathan Villagomez; police officer Joe Ayuyu, Maggie Naputi and her daughter Val Naputi, Vice Chairman Asap Ogunoro and Lei Teno-

rio, and community volunteers Francis Angui, Barbara Iglesias, Kadianne Sablan, Kui Lee, Francis Pangelinan, John Guerrero; Marianas Golf Association, the Refaluwasch Golf Association, the Saipan Golf Association, the Korean Golf Association, the Amigos Golf Association, and Exclusive Golf Association; Office of Homeland Security, special

Aassistant to HSEM Gerald Deleon Guerrero, and Joey Dela Cruz.

JKPL is looking forward to seeing more of the public at the their 25th Anniversary Dinner Fundraiser on Dec. 19 at the Pacific Islands Club with tickets at \$50. For more information, call the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library at 235-7323/235-7316. **(Michael T. Santos)**

Search for missing US service member

SANTA RITA, Guam—A search is being conducted for a missing service member off of Pagat Point in Mangilao, Guam.

During the afternoon of Nov. 20, Guam Fire Dispatch received a report of a missing swimmer in the vicinity of Pagat Point, Guam. Guam Fire Dispatch reported the call to the U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Sub-Center Guam.

USCG Sector Guam is coordinating search efforts with multiple resources to include

a helicopter, several Guam Fire rescue boats, the 110-foot patrol boat *Assateague*, and a 45-foot response boat. Guam Police Department is also doing shoreline searches and investigating on scene. Searches have been ongoing since the initial report.

Anyone having information regarding the missing swimmer is asked to call U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam at 671-355-4824 or hail U.S. Coast Guard over VHF-FM Ch. 16. **(USCG)**

Guam prepares events to welcome next possible archbishop, Byrnes

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam is preparing a series of events in late November to welcome the man who could become its next archbishop.

Coadjutor Archbishop Michael Jude Byrnes will arrive from Detroit on Nov. 28 and be welcomed by Archbishop Savio Hon Tai Fai and other clergy members, the Archdiocese of Agana told *The Pacific Daily News*.

Hon was sent to Guam in June to temporarily replace current Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron on an administrative basis.

Apuron, 71, has been Guam's highest Catholic leader for 30 years but faces a trial in Rome over multiple allegations of sex abuse of altar boys in the 1970s.

Byrnes, 58, will have the right to succeed Apuron if he

resigns, retires or is removed. Byrnes was auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Detroit before Pope Francis appointed him to the Guam post.

Byrnes will spend his first day on the island with Hon and the clergy in a day of recollection and private Mass at the Saint Therese Chapel at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica in Hagatna. The archdiocese said he will also meet with local religious men's and women's groups.

Island residents will have the opportunity to see and hear Byrnes during the Nov. 30 evening Mass at the cathedral-basilica.

Byrnes will also meet with representatives of all parishes, Catholic schools, Catholic institutions, and other lay ministries.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CUC Office Hours During Thanksgiving Holiday Period

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) would like to inform the general public of its office hours on November 23-25, 2016, as follows:

Wednesday, November 23, 2016

CUC Customer Center:

Open all day for payments and purchase of prepaid meter tokens (load) only.

All Other Offices:

Closed at 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 24, 2016 (Thanksgiving Day)
C L O S E D

Friday, November 25, 2016
C L O S E D

Regular business hours will resume on Monday, November 28, 2016. For emergencies, please contact the CUC Call Center at 664-4282 (4CUC).

Christmas Village lighting on Nov. 27

For those who are already filled with the holiday spirit, the official Christmas Village lighting will take place on Sunday, Nov. 27, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose courtyards.

Presented by the Lady Diann Foundation, the village will consist of Christmas-inspired houses created by volunteer participants.

Several houses under construction include Walt Disney's *Frozen*-themed house made by Imperial Pacific International Holdings, Ltd. and candy land with Mickey and Minnie by the Youth Affairs Office.

The lighting is scheduled at 6:30pm and is open to the public. From then on, lights will be turned on every Sunday through Thursday at 6pm to 9pm and Friday and Saturday from 6pm to 11pm.

Torres said, "One of my visions as first lady is to bring up the Christmas spirit. In the past, we did tree lightings for the First Lady Tree [first lady Josie Fital]

but this year we wanted to kick it up a notch and invited the public to build little houses. As a result, we created a Christmas Village that will be lit on Nov. 27. We invite the public to come out, enjoy the scene, and take a couple pictures."

"The event is also going to be a competition among the participants. There was a \$50 fee that will help with some expenses and of course our prize. In the end, [we decided to] call [it] the People's Choice Award. As people come in, we will have representatives from one of my partners present to help attendees place their votes," Torres said. "Again, we want to lift spirits. I think life is precious and we want everyone to enjoy the season, a season that's short so we have to make the best of it."

For more information about the upcoming event or any other future plans of the Lady Diann Foundation, contact them at (670) 235-5383. *(Michael T. Santos)*



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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-RFP-17-006

MAUI SHAFT WELLS REHABILITATION PROJECT, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to develop the method and perform the construction work to remove the cave in soil material in the Maui 4 Shaft Well tunnel and rehabilitate the existing buildings, platforms, shaft, electrical components, elevator system and all other items listed in the scope of work for the Maui 1 and 4 shaft wells. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is **375 calendar days** from date of award.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **November 8, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Maui Shaft Wells facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-17-006—Maui Shaft Wells Rehabilitation Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 29, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 10, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water-Wastewater Jr. Engineer via email address yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

MCS board moves forward



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, board secretary Joe A. Pangelinan, board chair Vicente "Ben" Babauta, board vice chair Jacqueline Che, outgoing chair Joe Tajeron, and board treasurer Will Hunter.

Building on the momentum of continuing enrollment increases for five years now, Mount Carmel School' board of directors is moving forward with some key initiatives.

This past summer, the board elected AlumKnight Vicente "Ben" Babauta to serve as its new chair. In accepting the position, Babauta expressed gratitude to outgoing chair, Joseph L.G. Tajeron, for his accomplishments. Under Tajeron's leadership, the school launched several important initiatives. Headed by a leadership change four years ago, the school reversed a decade of enrollment decline, going from about 250 students to current enrollment projections of over 500. The school also improved its financial situation, rose scores on standardized tests, and switched

to a new accreditation model. On top of that, Tajeron led the school board to give faculty and staff the first significant salary increase in over a decade.

One of the board's first priorities has been to relaunch the Save the Stage campaign, which will renovate and redesign the school's historic stage, where the CNMI Covenant and Constitution were deliberated and signed. The campaign was placed on hold last school year as the school recovered from the devastation of Typhoon Soudelor. Now, the board is finalizing a request for proposals for the stage renovations, which will be released in the coming weeks.

The board is also excited to be working with the recently reconvened AlumKnight Association, chaired by Alum-

Knight Charles Cepeda. The board aims to present designs and architectural renderings to the association's annual Night with the Knights Gala scheduled for Catholic Schools Week 2017.

In addition to relaunching the Save the Stage campaign, the board has also prioritized the development of a five-year strategic master plan, which it intends to launch by 2017. Based on current work on the strategic master plan, it will cover six areas: Catholicity, school finances, teaching and learning, student support, facilities and resources, and supplemental programs.

The board is also focusing on ensuring the smooth transition of Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center into Mount Carmel School, which started this school year. **(PR)**

20th Annual Candle Lighting on Saipan

The Compassionate Friends will be joining this year's Worldwide Candle Lighting ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 11, starting at 6:45pm at the Garapan Central Park (in front of Gold's Gym).

Believed to be the largest mass candle lighting on the globe, the 20th Annual Worldwide Candle Lighting creates a virtual 24-hour wave of light as it moves from time zone to time zone. It started in the United States in 1997 as a small Internet observance but has since swelled in numbers as word has spread throughout the world of the remembrance.

If you would like your child's or sibling's photo included in the slide show, e-mail one or two photos to nelsonkrum@msn.com before Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016.

Attendees are also welcome to bring a framed photo or small memento of their loved one for a display. Please bring your loved one's favorite dessert (finger food) to be shared, along with memories, after the program.

Those unable to attend may participate by simply lighting a candle at home alone, or with friends and family and/or submit a memorial post about a loved one in the Re-

membrance Book which will be available during the event, at TCF's national website at <http://www.compassionate-friends.org/home.aspx>.

Contact tcfsaipan@gmail.com, Jill Derickson (989-9821) or Donna Krum (783-1900) for further information.

The Compassionate Friends is a national mutual assistance, self-help organization that offers friendship, understanding and support to family members who have experienced the death of a son, daughter, brother, sister, or grandchild, and helps others better assist grieving families. **(PR)**



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-17-011

SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR LIGHT VEHICLE AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the supply of fuel for light vehicles and heavy equipment for CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-17-011—Supply of Fuel for Light Vehicle and Heavy Equipment" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 5, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Mafnas, CUC Contract Administrator via email address john.mafnas@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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EDITORIAL

Fake news a real problem for Facebook, Google, all of us

Elections have consequences, as President Barack Obama famously told congressional Republicans after taking office in 2009, and the decisive Electoral College triumph of Donald Trump in last week's presidential election will have far-reaching consequences. When the Democratic Party emerges from denial about the country's current direction—and moves on from its uproar over Hillary Clinton's popular vote margin—its responsible leaders and members will undertake some soul-searching. For now, the most notable consequences of Trump's win are in social media.

On Monday, first Google and then Facebook announced that they would not allow fake news sites to use the tech giants' advertising services, which provide lucrative revenue for widely-shared web traffic. This is a welcome change—but not because of the silly clamor in some places that Hillary Clinton lost to Trump as a result of the proliferation of fake news stories. No, Clinton lost for numerous nuanced reasons, including the simple fact that she was a symbol of the status quo in an election year in which so many people wanted change. Rather, the fight against fake news is welcome because the tech giants are used by hundreds of millions of people a day; the world's largest internet companies have a responsibility to protect users from misinformation.

But this is a slippery slope. In some cases, one person's fake news will be another person's strong opinion. The algorithms that Facebook has used to try to filter out fake news haven't worked well, and when Facebook used humans and algorithms to monitor posts and news feeds, it faced accusations of anti-conservative bias from two news "curators" who helped decide what topics were trending.

Deciding what is fake news and what is satire is also a challenge. The Onion's edgy take on the news—i.e., "Pope Vows To Get Church Pedophilia Down To Acceptable Levels"—clearly falls within the standard of First Amendment-protected satire set by the 1988 Supreme Court ruling upholding Hustler magazine's printing of a parody of a Campari liquer ad in which religious leader Jerry Falwell reminisced about his "first time."

And what about The Daily Curreant? It won attention in 2013 after getting several major media outlets to pick up its fake reports, such as a story that a New York pizzeria had refused to serve then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg a second slice of pizza to protest Bloomberg's attempts to limit soda consumption. This led to a Politico report that noted that unlike The Onion, The Daily Curreant wasn't going for laughs. Instead, it wanted to inflame opinion. Perhaps in response, The Daily Curreant now regularly features Onion-style attempts at humor mixed in with humorless fake news.

As of Tuesday, its page had no Google ads. Is this fair?

See **FAKE** on Next Page



Better late than never

By **JAMES SHARPE**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: This article is being published in three parts due to its length.

Last of a three-part series

While much of what inspectors found is within the control of operators, some problems clearly are not. A CNMI mine operator appealed for more time and help, claiming he "was starting to rebuild after the hurricane." As paraphrased by the inspector, the operator complained he had not yet received certification so he could train his employees, and added, "Our office uptown is still missing a roof from the hurricane. We can't get workers [as] they only receive a one-year visa then they are deported and we have to start all over again. The local workers will not work due to the U.S. government give them welfare that [is] usually more money and benefits than they can get working on the island." Another operator complained that months elapse before ordered parts arrive from the mainland. Non-English-speaking contract laborers from Asian nations present communications problems.

In what seems like an understatement, Main observed, "[t] here are some tough issues that have to be dealt with as far as the mining conditions that they have to come to terms with."

Biggest obstacles for MSHA

Main said MSHA's biggest obstacle has been "getting everybody attuned that this Mine Act has to be applied." His statement in part reflects an allegation by CNMI officials, since refuted, that MSHA lacked jurisdiction. Another hurdle is MSHA's having had to wrestle with understanding "just what we're dealing with there, and an understanding by them of what they need to do to get ready for Mine Act enforcement." He said MSHA is still trying to identify mines, especially "mom and pop operations." The agency is also anticipating an extension of its reach to Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands and minor outlying islands, since these areas appear in MSHA's DRS, although no mines are listed.

Because mine operators appear to have lobbied their political representatives to keep MSHA at bay, opposition from government officials would seem to be another potential roadblock. But Main essentially said no. "I am really thankful given the support we've had from congressional representatives, the support we're

having from the local governmental agencies and the growing recognition by the mining industry that, yeah, this is coming." Indeed, the *Tribune* quoted CNMI's Labor Secretary Edith De-Leon Guerrero as stating that when it comes to worker safety, "any regulating department or agency is responsible to make sure they enforce their laws, whether it's at the federal level or the state level." Main said MSHA was trying to institute the same cooperative federal-state mining model on the islands as now exists in the U.S.

Although less an obstacle than a headache, perhaps even literally, a huge time change exists between the mainland and CNMI because the latter is located across the international dateline. Saipan is 18 hours ahead of San Francisco and 21 hours ahead of Pago Pago, which is three hours behind San Francisco.

It remains to be seen how MSHA will administer the law in these Pacific territories. Options apparently are to set up offices on-site or operate out of the Western District's main office in California. Hawaii would also seem to be a possibility, but, interestingly, although the Western District has field stations and field offices in two western states, it has no administrative presence whatsoever in the Aloha state, despite the 38 active and intermittent mines present there, according to MSHA's website.

As for funding, MSHA is seeking an extra \$350,000 to support Mine Act enforcement in the western and southern Pacific regions in fiscal year 2017. The estimate is surely based in significant part on travel expenses incurred by staffers over the past year. From our FOIA request, we learned that the agency paid \$196,356 in travel expenses for 14 MSHA personnel to make 35 trips to the islands during a 13-month period that ended May 31. Nine personnel were from the Metal/Non-Metal Inspectorate, four from Educational Policy and Development and one from Technical Support.

The per-person cost for dedicated trips to Saipan in the CNMI and Samoa came to an average of about \$500 a day. Those exclusively to Guam came to \$527, an average influenced by a seven-day visit by the same metal/non-metal traveler, which cost the government \$782 a day. This person also billed the government \$710 a day for five days in Samoa. Although travelers were not identified by name in the FOIA, two of the four Pacific isle visits by this individual matched in-country dates reported by the local media for Western District Manager Andrews.

If past MSHA enforcement in the U.S. is a prologue to what is to come, island metal/non-metal operators are in for a very bumpy ride indeed in the near future.

James Sharpe, a certified industrial hygienist, is the former Vice President of Safety and Health Services for the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association, a trade group based in the Washington, D.C. area that supports the U.S. aggregate mining sector.

» MSHA to enforce Mine Act in Pacific after 50 years of inaction

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Beginning of the holidays

This Thursday is Thanksgiving. It's a special family occasion when we bow our heads with eyes closed to give Him our most profound *si yuus maase* for all our blessings over the last year. It's also the beginning of the holiday season.

As I hit the keyboard, there's a calming soft instrumental of *Silent Night* echoing from my laptop. It brought vivid memories of yester-years and thoughts of loved ones in far away land.

There's a second melody *O' Little Town of Bethlehem* that says in part "the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight." Remembered the historic simplicity of Christmas Day in Bethlehem where He lay silently in "deep and dreamless sleep" in a manger. Very humbling! Yes, there was a lump in my throat reminiscing of days gone by where time disappeared like morning dew.

Recalled my late brother asking how come I never ran for public office. Told him that I wasn't about to compromise personal values and faith for temporal stuff. I was assigned to write and this is my lifetime commitment until that day that I sail into the sunset.

I had the opportunity to look briefly into the narrative I've drafted, reviewing the changes that have taken place here over the last five decades. There's something strangely unique about it in the level of civics literacy. In other words, though there's the accepted idea that power resides in "we the people." But most are passive how that strength could make a difference in our everyday lives. We'd address this later.

Is there any transformation I find as a real game changer and challenge? It's the digital age! It's an issue that requires parental guidance so we re-establish family communication daily.

Even my grandkids no longer speak to me, their eyes glued to their iPhone texting or watching games.

Most of us look forward to Christmas Eve to welcome the baby Jesus. After Mass, we gather for some coffee and breakfast, looking forward to the veneration of the Niño Jesus who'd visit our homes at daylight. This tradition has been with us since time immemorial. Let it be a peaceful and joyous *felis noche buena* with loved ones! On New Year's Eve, renew personal vows to be of greater help to your fellow man.

Strange silence: Perplexing the rather deafening silence in Republican victory, though understandable why such a seemingly weird reaction.

In short, it must be a stunning victory that poses more questions than anything else. Thus, the reward has sent them quizzing "what now?" I say use it or lose it!

But there's the empty assertion that it was the result of "organized planning." Really? Did you mean allegations of ballot stuffing and all expenses paid by your generous sugar daddy?

While your juicy turkey, pumpkin pie, baked potatoes and baked ham leg are delivered by your loyal sugar daddy this Thanksgiving, most of us would make do with food we could buy from whatever is left in family pocket books. What's the point? Our food may not be sumptuous but it would come from our hard-earned pennies, nickels and dimes!

Anyway, interesting how a unified government under your charge would fare. It would be a test of your ability to lead lest you'd be relegated to the ash heap of wobbly disposition!

Too much talk! Over the last 40-plus years, I've heard half-cocked eggheads talk about indigenous rights as though they've found some egregious violation of rights.

various task forces. So the first question is why BOE lowered the qualification to only a master's degree. It really didn't make sense to lower the requirements for the commissioner especially when there was more than one candidate with a doctorate coming forward. The requirements should have only been lowered when there were not enough candidates to meet the doctorate requirement. BOE created the appearance of impropriety from the very start so it's not surprising to see how it ended. Next, why was the selection done in secrecy, which defies the expectation of transparency? Why wasn't the field of candidate narrowed to the top two so their interviews could be held public like the last selection for commissioner? There was indeed no transparency in the selection process as claimed. It should also be noted that if the requirements were reduced, PSS' Human Resource Department had to have played a role in changing these requirements, which gives rise to the obvious suspected ethics violation or even criminal act, which has so many people upset.

I think this is a matter for the Public Auditor or AG to review for ethics and even policy violations as they are the only check on the BOE in this civil matter. FYI, there hasn't been a teacher rep on the Board since I quit in 2008 and it's a constitutional requirement to have a teacher rep on the board! The board and our previous governors have all ignored this constitutional law for almost a decade but maybe now the Public Auditor and/or the AG will force the board and the governor to set the conditions for a teacher rep to be elected, given the board and the governor are violating the very law they took an oath to uphold by refusing to take action. The board has no excuse but our new governor needs to get busy so he can't be blamed. Hopefully the protesting group will make a formal request to the Public Auditor and the AG for possible ethics violations and for failing to follow the law! Those teachers who are protesting the BOE process need to be doing all they can to get the governor and the board to grant them their constitutional right to be represented on the board which would positively affect the hiring and firing process for everyone at PSS in a good way. But if you are expecting fairness and transparency from the BOE by simply protesting with a petition, then you need to know that you are wasting your time!

Ambrose M. Bennett

Former teacher/BOE member
Kagman, Saipan

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



But it was all shallow "biba" infused with racist agenda to secure more votes. And so the focus is on hollow politics over organizing meaningful programs to help the local people. What perfect recipe—tweaking issues to racism—just to ensure votes on misguided discussion.

Someday we would resolve this issue but it takes the educated and professional locals to move the needle of clarity and understanding forward. I will explain it when we jointly cross the bridge!

Interesting, though, the perceptual importance placed on improving the lot of the indigenous people that died in sound bytes and letters that fell of the pages of newspapers. The airheads have succeeded in a game plan founded on racism. And so it's the blind leading the blind singing *Three Blind Mice*!

A closer look into how Article 12 has been desecrated by chancy land deals gives you a perfect view of the lack of respect for its mandate. It limits landownership to the indigenous people. I fail to see where it opens opportunities to serve as surrogates for big firms amassing land in these isles. No worries! This indigenous U.S. citizen would probe the issue for eventual exposure of the willful violation of intended to protect indigenous land.

Chalan iya hame: There was the humble face of a friend singing, *I Chalan Iya Hame* or the familiar road of home. I'm not particularly fond of the melody, though I relish the meaningful lyrics. I'm sure each of us remembered the road to the old house you walk on daily in your youth.

Whoever wrote the song is asking Him to bless the road for his departure would mean he wouldn't be returning. It would remain a pleasantry in his memory. A thoughtful piece where our tiny steps once frequented the path a long time ago. Why am I in memory lane?

Yes, I remember that road that led to school, catechism, church and adjoining villages. I'd take quick trips to see if anything has changed drastically. Indeed, old properties have all been leased out to foreign businesses. It just changed the entire neighborhood.

I find it woefully troubling how the old lot was sold, the foundation of our family rich with its own history. But it happens when you're not tethered to the land where it's just another commodity! Dumb! It took out the meaning of the song, *Chalan Iya Hame*.

FAKE

From Page 12

Probably. But if fake news is OK when it's funny, how subjective can you get? What algorithm—or human—can be trusted to make this distinction? If Google and Facebook adopt restrictive policies, a barrage of bias claims seems inevitable.

Thankfully, the new policies that Twitter announced Tuesday have far less of a gray area. The besieged social media company has finally responded to critics by providing tools to limit online harassment, including filters that block unwanted tweets containing specific keywords and hashtags.

This comes against a backdrop of mean-spirited and bigoted targeting of Trump critics. Few stories this campaign season were as stomach-turning as the one told by National Review writer David French about the grotesque online abuse he and his family faced after he sharply criticized Trump.

These changes shouldn't have taken an election. But they are encouraging nonetheless.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The BOE hiring disaster

As a former teacher representative on the Board of Education and as the only other person who was certified as qualified and interviewed in 2008 for the commissioner position, I'm hopeful that my perspective on the board's decision to hire will qualify as being factual and true. Just maybe it will help. The questions over BOE's process and transparency are indeed valid questions of ethics and even a possible criminal conspiracy if there was indeed a plan to hire a particular person. I wasn't surprised at what happened and I even felt it would happen which is why I didn't fill out the application I picked up. I knew from my previous experience that the board would never hire me but I went through the interview process then just to prove I was capable of being the commissioner and to have it on my resume. Everyone knew the board was going to pick Rita from the very start, which is probably why it was public. However, this is a different set of circumstances and challenges to pull off a "predetermined pick" that is being alleged by protesters.

This is not to bash or disqualify anyone as I believe there were three legitimate candidates—Deleon Guerrero, Demapan and Muña—but the question is, did the BOE really hire the best candidate for the job or was the process rigged? I am not against any of them; I just want BOE to be fair and choose truly the best person. Deleon Guerrero is a relative and I have great respect for her and her work ethic, Demapan is a very close friend whom I also respect and has an excellent work ethics along with being a real fighter, and Muna has been a longtime associate who truly has the experience as an associate commissioner. So this is not about me picking sides but questioning how BOE arrived at their decision, which was inconsistent with the past election and highly questionable by many.

My first question is why wasn't the interviews conducted in the public domain like they did with Dr. Sablan and myself—we were interviewed at PIC and the public was invited to see the process and to hear the questions and answers. I understand the concern for a Ph.D., but to the board's defense I was granted the "equivalency of a Ph.D." as a result of my board membership for five years and the many years of work on PSS'

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲89° ▼79°

TUESDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲89° ▼79°

WEDNESDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼79°

THURSDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

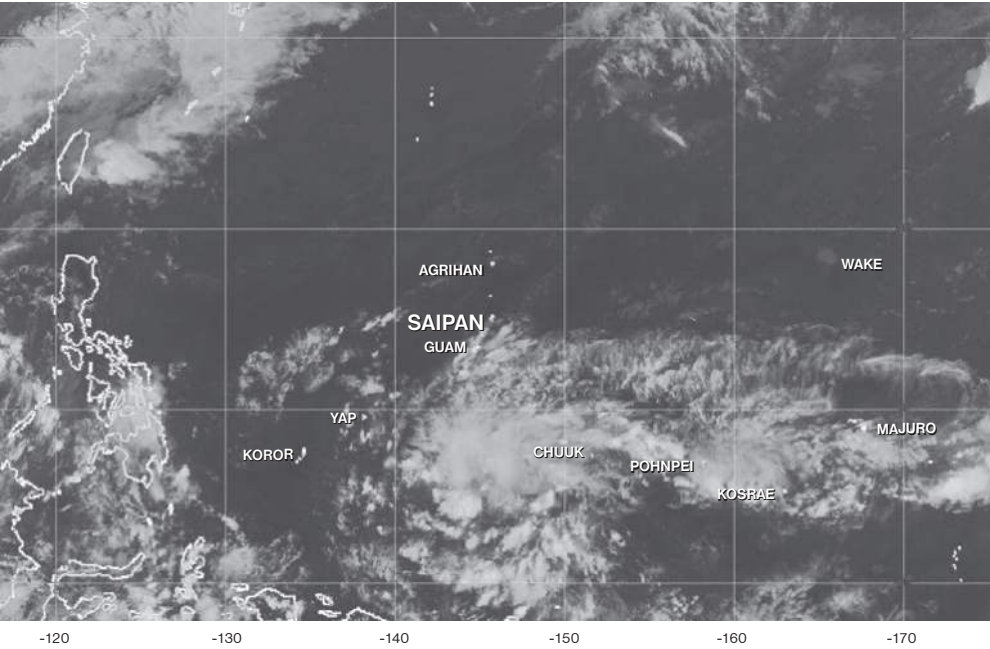
▲87° ▼79°

FRIDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:10 AM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

East to northeast trade-winds and isolated showers prevail across the local area this morning. Radar and satellite imagery showed a few showers moving across the Marianas this morning. A weak trade-wind disturbance is associated with a patch of clouds and showers near 148E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Mostly sunny	83 / 89 °F
Palau	Heavy rain	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Heavy rain	81 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Morning clouds	79 / 85 °F
Pohnpei	Heavy rain	77 / 83 °F
Kosrae	Mostly cloudy	79 / 86 °F
Majuro	Heavy rain	82 / 85 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Sunny	56 / 66 °F
Beijing	Mostly cloudy	33 / 39 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	75 / 82 °F
Honolulu	Morning clouds	71 / 78 °F
London	Mostly cloudy	40 / 54 °F
Los Angeles	Partly cloudy	54 / 64 °F
Manila	Mostly sunny	80 / 91 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	66 / 91 °F
Miami	Mostly sunny	59 / 74 °F
New York	Partly cloudy	37 / 42 °F
Osaka	Partly sunny	51 / 64 °F
Paris	Rain	52 / 59 °F
Pusan	Mostly cloudy	51 / 64 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	50 / 66 °F
Salem	Light showers	45 / 53 °F
San Francisco	Partly cloudy	53 / 61 °F
Seoul	Morning clouds	34 / 55 °F
Tokyo	Light rain	51 / 57 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	33 / 45 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
6:53 AM	LOW TIDE	0.02 Feet
2:11 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.88 Feet
8:24 PM	LOW TIDE	0.98 Feet
-	-	-

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:22 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:22 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	-	12:19 PM
Tuesday	12:20 AM	1:02 PM
Wednesday	1:10 AM	1:43 PM
Thursday	1:59 AM	2:22 PM
Friday	2:46 AM	3:00 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

The immeasurable benefits of music

Last night my step-daughter and I watched a concert on YouTube (we have WiFi in our kitchen and a pretty good TV). The concert we watched was Pepe Romero (a fantastic classical guitarist) playing the Concierto de Aranjuez, accompanied by a symphony orchestra. It was a wonderful experience—watching and listening to great musicians make great music.

Romero was in top form, and we were impressed with his dazzling technique as his fingers danced on the guitar.

What's important about experiencing a concert is the way that it affects your brain. Your little neurons do a lively dance while you are listening to the music, while watching the musicians play.

Not all music can do this—only certain, fairly intellectual pieces. It won't work with most contemporary music you hear on the radio, but the effect of Mozart, or Bach, or other composers can not only make your brain tingle, it can also make you smarter. Long ago there was a book titled *The Mozart Effect*. It described how students who studied while listening to Mozart became sharper and more intelligent. I believe it.

After we watched the Concierto de Aranjuez (by Rodrigo) I suddenly remembered another music video, and we watched that too. If you were here, I would sit you down and say, "For the next five minutes, watch this!" The piece was from an Italian composer's famous work "The Pines of Rome." The piece has four movements, but it's the fourth, the last one, which has amazing musical fireworks. It's impossible to hear this piece without being thrilled to your core.

The piece—all five minutes of it—was played as a countdown to a New Year's Eve concert in Japan. The goal was to play the last, crashing, chord as the clock struck midnight. (This was the 2007-2008 concert). This particular movement was called "Pines of the Appian Way"—the road used by legions of Roman soldiers centuries ago. It begins slowly, with the tympani pounding a steady, throbbing beat. Over that, the trumpets begin to fanfare, playing military calls, as the rest of the huge orchestra began to come in. The conductor—I don't know his name, but he was Japanese and he "danced" as he conducted. Such a pleasure to watch him.

Little by little, the piece built up momentum until you could almost see legions of

By RUSS MASON, M.S.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, Alternative & Complementary Therapies. His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.



Roman soldiers marching on this famous road. Superimposed over the orchestra was a clock, showing the countdown to midnight. The clock moved around the screen as the orchestra thundered on. It was breathtaking. Then, at midnight, the orchestra hit the final, stirring, chord as "2008" appeared on the scenery. The audience exploded, yelling with delight, as glitter fell everywhere.

If you have YouTube, watch it. Search for "Pines of Rome New Year's Eve 2008." You have never seen anything like this.

Even better

Even better than watching and hearing great music (YouTube has everything) is actually playing music, preferably with others, and preferably improvising. Tell you why.

When you are playing a musical instrument, your brain does a little dance. It is stimulated in the most delightful way. And in addition to making you smarter, it also makes you more intuitive. That is, you can sense the way the music is going before it gets there, and your brain is controlling your hands as you play. It sounds far-fetched but it's real; I have experienced this myself.

I have had the wonderful pleasure of being in several bands. Some were jazz, others were ragtime, others were country-folk. When you play with other musicians, you have to carefully listen to what the others are doing, and hold back, if need be, or take a solo when it's your turn. Throughout all this, your brain is dancing and sparking at the experience.

Since the Christmas season has pretty much begun and you are thinking of getting a present for someone, consider an electronic keyboard. Although many of our local stores have them, they cost a lot here. However, on eBay, you can find a great little Casio or Yamaha for under \$50. It's not just for music; it's an investment in your son or daughter's intelligence.

When I was young, around 8 years old, my parents rent-

ed a piano and got me to take piano lessons. This, as it turns out, was a mistake. I didn't care about playing *Ducks in the Lane*. I wanted to figure out music by myself, and with help from some neighbors, who all played the piano. Although they weren't stellar musicians, they were better than me, and had much to teach me.

So when John (an older neighbor) played a song called *Little Susie*, I asked, "How do you do that?"

John patiently showed me where to put my fingers on the keys. It was not easy, but I liked it. My brain liked it too.

It took a lot of practice in order to play *Little Susie*, but I learned it long ago and can still play it to this day.

But what I liked best was to simply sit at the keyboard and try to figure how to play for myself. I would play a note, then some other notes, listening how they interacted with each other.

The first song I ever picked out by myself was *Lady of Spain*. It's a very simple tune, and I'll bet you could pick it out too—but you have to listen carefully, so you hit the right notes.

But when you're not playing music yourself, treat yourself to hearing and watching music on YouTube.

If you have never experienced Beethoven's Symphony No. 5, you have a treat awaiting you. It is perhaps the most groundbreaking piece of music ever written.

Before Beethoven came along, all of the former music was highly structured and followed a form of composition. But Beethoven, "the man who set music free" decided that following a form was not being true to himself. As a result, Beethoven "kicked down the doors" of musical composition and his audiences were overwhelmed. They had never heard anything like this before; especially when the music explodes from a dark, minor key into a gloriously triumphant, major key.

I realize that few will actually buy a keyboard, or listen to Beethoven, but I can tell you this: the rewards are well worth it.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICE, DR-4235-MP OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INVITATION FOR BID ITB17-GOV-041 Metal Roof Repair at the Department of Corrections FEMA DR-4235-MP PA PW 80

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Public Assistance Program are soliciting sealed bids for the metal roof repair project at the Department of Corrections facility in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available November 21, 2016 at the Public Assistance Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A \$50.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment be present when obtaining a project package. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, currently in effect, and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30.3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference and site visit for this project on December 07, 2016 at 9:00am ChST at the Department of Corrections in Susupe, Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Patrick C. Guerrero in writing on or before December 12, 2016 to the Public Assistance Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, by email to: patrickguerrero.pa@gmail.com, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked *ITB17-GOV-041 Metal Roof Repair at the Department of Corrections*. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **9:00 a.m. ChST December 21, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST December 21, 2016 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pmcom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than December 21, 2016 and the bid documents must be received no later than December 30, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at 9:00 a.m. ChST January 3, 2017. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at 9:00 a.m. ChST December 21, 2016.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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AUCTION NOTICE

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID :
010 K 169	SIRENA AVE., DANDAN, SAIPAN	\$31,312.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 21, 2016 subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid.** The minimum acceptable bid for each property is as indicated above.
- Reserve.** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for these properties listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC. Also, failure to deposit the 10% of the purchase price on the same day will subject NMHC to award the winning bid to the next highest bidder. All auction terms and rules must apply to the next highest bidder.
- Change of Terms.** NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2016.

/S/ Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal housing provider, lender and employer.

30 Pacific police officers graduate from FWCC course

NADI, Fiji—A cohort of 30 officers from 11 Pacific countries will return to their posts looking at violence against women through new lenses after successfully completing an intensive two-week course in Nadi.

The officers graduated Friday from the Fiji Women's Crisis Center's Police Regional Training Program at the Hexagon Hotel in Nadi. Funded by the Australian Federal Police, the training aims to equip officers with a thorough understanding of gender dynamics, the causes of violence against women and the relevant laws designed to combat gender-based violence.

Represented during the training were Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Fiji Women's Crisis Center coordinator Shamima Ali, who facilitated the course, said sensitizing police officers to gender and violence against women was crucial as they were the first responders to women who report any form of violence.

"Many women have bad experiences at police stations, often being subjected to further degradation and victim-blaming. This has the effect of discouraging women from coming forward to seek jus-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 30 graduating police officers from 11 Pacific countries with Australian Federal Police's detective superintendent Todd Hunter, front, fourth from right, Fiji Women's Crisis Center coordinator Shamima Ali, fifth from right, AFP's Lautoa Faletau, second from right, and deputy division commander west, Superintendent Abdul Khan, fifth from left, along with FWCC staff.

tice and lets the perpetrator walk free to commit further violence," said Ali.

"Training courses like this help police officers gain an insight into why violence happens and what survivors of violence experience so they are better sensitized when dealing with cases back in their stations."

Detective superintendent Todd Hunter, the coordinator of the AFP's Pacific Police Development Program – Regional, attended the closure of the program. At the ceremony he commented that the importance of this training cannot be understated.

"The training provided dur-

ing the Fiji Women's Crisis Center program is a high priority and a critical component of the Australian Federal Police's focus on gender, human rights and violence against women and children throughout the Pacific.

"Sponsoring programs such as this, in partnership with the FWCC, is aimed at ensuring police and community awareness of these issues is heightened and positive behavioral change occurs.

"Police as first responders must have the capability to deal both sensitively and within the law with gender-based issues. As police officers it is

our sworn duty to work within and uphold the rule of law to protect the communities we serve—that is the fundamental of policing and is the same regardless of which country or what police force you are from," said Hunter.

He acknowledged the excellent work being done in this area by Shamima Ali and the FWCC team.

"I encourage all participants to take what they have learned and implement it into their policing duties, including challenging what may be ingrained thinking in respective communities," he said.

"The AFP looks forward to

continuing to support gender and human rights training and awareness in Pacific to improve policing response to sexual and gender based violence."

The participants already recognize the change in their attitudes and what they need to do when they return to their posts.

"Coming to this workshop has really increased my knowledge and I see there is a big need for police officers to improve our response and really understand things from the victim's perspective. Our professional approach to victims must improve," said Sgt. Ruth Murup from Papua New Guinea.

Sgt. Mary Ake of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force said: "All police officers must go through this training; it should be in our police academy, especially for frontline police officers."

Senior constable Tauketalata Vakalahi of Tonga said: "This training has filled in gaps because we didn't realize that the little things we did that hurt the victim, like not taking their case seriously."

Attending the graduation Friday was the deputy divisional commander of the West Division, superintendent Abdul Khan, who also presented some of the certificates.

The AFP-FWCC Regional Police Training Program was first held in 2014, with this being the fourth. In May 2016, a Regional Police Training was held in the Federated States of Micronesia, the first of its kind for officers in the Northern Pacific countries.

The graduation of the current cohort on Nov. 18 brings the number of graduates to 110 regional police officers. (PR)

Bolivar to get new assignment

The Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John M. Richardson announced Friday that Rear Adm. Babette Bolivar will be getting a new assignment.

Bolivar will be assigned as Commander, Navy Region Southeast, Jacksonville, Florida. Bolivar is currently serving as U.S. Pacific Command Representative, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern

Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau; commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Marianas; and commander, Joint Region Marianas, Guam.

Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield will relieve Bolivar during a change of command ceremony scheduled for January. (Joint Region Marianas)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at Warning Area 517, FDM

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) during the following dates and times:

- Nov. 21 from noon to 10pm
- Nov. 22 from 8am to 10pm
- Nov. 23 from 8am to 8pm

The military will also conduct 24-hour training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla Nov. 24-28.

The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the date and times indicated. (PR)

Kagman High progress report day

Calling all parents, guardians, and stakeholders of Kagman High School! Please come to the progress report on Tuesday, Nov. 22, between 4pm and 6pm. Teachers will be available in the cafeteria to give grade updates, and schedule appointments for further discussions as needed. This is a critical time for interventions if a student is not

meeting the requirements and expectations of passing the course to earn credit toward graduation.

Honor roll for first-quarter will also be passed out this day. Parents to attend will receive raffle tickets toward the end-of-the-year raffle. (PR)

CUC office hours

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will have the following office hours on Nov. 23-25, 2016:

- Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2016: CUC Customer Center will be open all day for payments and purchase of prepaid meter tokens (load) only. All other offices: Closed at 12pm.
- Thursday, Nov. 24, 2016 (Thanksgiving Day): Closed
- Friday, Nov. 25, 2016: Closed

Regular business hours will resume on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016. For emergencies, contact the CUC Call Center at 664-4282 (4CUC). (CUC)

Chamber to host career exploration day

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its "2016 Career Exploration Day" on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016. High school juniors and

seniors will choose a field of business they are interested in and will be paired with a participating chamber business. Students will be recognized at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall during the chamber's membership meeting on Dec. 7 at 12pm. For more information, call the chamber office at (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipanchamber.com. (SCC)

SHEFA deadlines

The SHEFA deadline for new application only is on Dec. 1, 2016. The deadline for all supporting documents is on Feb. 28, 2017. All documents must be complete and submitted at once. (SHEFA)

Wage and salary statement workshop

The Division of Revenue and Taxation, Department of Finance will be conducting a workshop for the Annual Wage and Salary Statement, Form (W-2CM) for tax year 2016 and other 2016 year-end filing requirements. The workshop will be on Friday, Dec. 16, 2016. The first seminar will be from 8am to 11am and the second will be from 1pm to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Cen-

ter. Businesses, employers and all payroll service companies are encouraged to attend. Please confirm your attendance by calling the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1000 and 664-1098 or fax at 664-1015. (PR)

Holiday closures at Visitor Center

The American Memorial Park Visitor Center will be closed in observance of the upcoming federal holidays:

- Nov. 24, 2016, Thanksgiving
- Dec. 25, 2016, Christmas Day
- Jan. 1, 2017, New Year's Day

Park staff would also like to encourage the public to visit the Visitor Center. With the exception of the holidays closed, the VC is open every day from 9am to 5pm.

If you have any questions, contact park ranger Brooke Nevitt at 234-7207 or 2020 or email brooke_nevitt@nps.gov. (NPS)

Holiday bazaar on Dec. 4

The annual Brilliant Star School Holiday Bazaar will be held Sunday, Dec. 4, from 9am to 4pm at the Pedro P.

Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The event is an opportunity for artists and other vendors to showcase their arts, and for residents and visitors to get an early start on buying unique and beautiful gifts for the holidays. Interested vendors may contact the school at 323-STAR (323-7827). For parents who would like to have a little alone shopping time, the event features an arts and crafts area for children. The daylong event is also graced by performances throughout the day by various community cultural and arts groups. There will also be raffles. (PR)

FOA to hold board meeting

The Friends of the Arts will hold a board meeting on Nov. 29, 6:30pm to 9pm, at the Canton Restaurant, across from the Mobil/McDonald's in Garapan. The meeting will include musical and thespian entertainment. There will be a detailed discussion regarding the 2017 season and the opportunity to renew membership and purchase season tickets. For more information, contact Frank Gibson at fl-gibson@yahoo.com. (PR)

Business

AMID SLOWDOWN, CRACKDOWN

China's African population declines

GUANGZHOU, China (AP)—Dreams are fading in China for African traders like Mouhamadou Moustapha Dieng, who in 2003 was among the first wave of Africans to set up homes and companies in this port city and forge trading links between China and the African continent.

Young African traders who want to follow in the footsteps of Dieng's generation complain of difficulties getting visas, police crackdowns and prejudice, which come amid rising nationalism and slowing economic growth. Guangzhou is believed to have the largest African population in Asia, but many are leaving as long-time traders struggle against a slowdown in the Chinese economy and increased competition from Chinese traders and the internet.

"Now the trade is almost finished," said Dieng, 54 and from Senegal. His profits are down 40 percent from a decade ago. In the absence

of a Senegalese consulate in the city, newly arrived 20-somethings on tourist visas head directly to his office for advice on how to do business in China.

"They come with their bags, they sit down, they don't have anywhere to sleep, they don't have money," said the father-of-four. "Most of them, after 10, 15 days they go back."

Over recent decades, Chinese companies and entrepreneurs have spread out across Africa building stadiums, roads and other large projects, cultivating land, running hotels and opening restaurants. Less well-known are the thousands of Africans who live in or regularly visit the southern trading port of Guangzhou, which neighbors Hong Kong. Estimates of this population of residents and floating traders vary, and the police's entry-exit administration declined to comment or offer data. The city's vice mayor said in 2014 that there were approximately

16,000 Africans in Guangzhou, of which 4,000 were residents. Guangzhou's population is 13.5 million.

The first African traders started arriving in Guangzhou in the late 1990s, attracted by its annual international trade fair, China's economic boom and the ease of doing commerce in the city thanks to its wholesale markets, factories and low prices. Guangzhou had benefited from being one of the first Chinese cities allowed to open up to business in the 1980s, giving it a head start in attracting exporters.

Now that rosy picture has faded. Traders have to compete with online companies like Alibaba that allow customers to order from their offices rather than going to markets. They also have more competition from Chinese, like Dieng's former employee who started her own business targeting his clients after picking up the Senegalese language Wolof.

Volkswagen to shed 30K jobs, cutting costs after scandal

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Volkswagen announced plans Friday to cut 30,000 jobs in a wide-ranging restructuring of its namesake brand as it tries to recover from a scandal over cars rigged to cheat on diesel emissions tests.

The German company said the job cuts, which account to around 5 percent of its global workforce, are part of a long-term plan to improve profitability and shift resources and investment to electric-powered vehicles and digital services.

At a news conference at Volkswagen's headquarters in Wolfsburg, company officials said 23,000 of the job cuts will be in Germany and that the measures will save some 3.7 billion euros (\$4 billion) a year from 2020. Volkswagen employs around 120,000 people at its namesake brand in Germany.

The company also said it would be hiring for some 9,000 new positions related

to new technology, and that some of those jobs could go to current employees.

CEO Matthias Mueller said it was "the biggest reform package in the history of our core brand." In addition to Volkswagen, the company also makes cars under other brands including Porsche, Audi, SEAT, Skoda and Lamborghini.

The announcement caps a difficult year for Volkswagen, which has been embroiled in an emissions-rigging scandal that damaged the company's reputation and cost it billions.

In response, Volkswagen has agreed to pay \$15 billion to U.S. authorities and owners of some 500,000 vehicles with software that turned off emissions controls. Around 11 million cars worldwide have the deceptive software.

The scandal has been a spur for the company to address longstanding problems such as high fixed costs at its manufacturing locations in Germany and excessively top-down

management that many say created an environment that enabled the cheating.

Herbert Diess, head of the core Volkswagen brand, conceded that Volkswagen had let its costs rise and "lost ground in terms of productivity." The changes, he said, would make the company "leaner and more efficient."

The cuts are aimed at addressing Volkswagen's long-standing cost issue.

Volkswagen, with 624,000 employees around the world, sells roughly the same number of cars as Toyota and General Motors—around 10 million a year. But Toyota does it with 349,000 workers and GM with 202,000.

One reason often cited for VW's higher cost-base and headcount is the role that employee representatives play at the company. As at other large German companies, employees have half the seats on the board, a power they can use to resist moving production outside Germany or to suppliers.

compensation if investments are expropriated, and gives investors the right to freely transfer abroad their investments and returns.

Hong Kong Commerce Secretary Gregory So and Chilean Foreign Minister Hernando Muñoz signed the deal at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum on Friday.

It follows a free trade agreement that the Chinese financial hub and Latin American country signed in 2012.

More than 1,000 delegates from 21 countries, representing nearly two-fifths percent of the world's population, are in Lima for the APEC forum aimed at easing global commerce.

Nation

Trump opponents try to beat him at the Electoral College

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—Grassroots campaigns have sprung up around the country to try to persuade members of the Electoral College to do something that has never been done in American history—deny the presidency to the clear Election Day winner.

Activists are circulating online petitions and using social media in hopes of influencing Republican electors to cast their ballots for someone other than President-elect Donald Trump and deprive him of the 270 Electoral College votes needed to become the next occupant of the White House.

"Yes, I think it's a long-shot, but I also think we're living in strange times," said Daniel Brezenoff, who created a petition in favor of Hillary Clinton and is asking signers to lobby electors by email or phone. "If it was ever plausible, it's this year."

Trump has won 290 electoral votes to Clinton's 232, with Michigan undecided, but Clinton is on pace to win the popular vote by at least 1 million ballots. Trump's opponents are motivated by the outcome of the popular vote and by their contention that the businessman and reality TV star is unfit to serve as commander in chief.

Just one elector so far has



Melinda Smyser, one of Idaho's four presidential electors, poses for a portrait in Boise, Idaho, Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016.

wavered publicly on supporting Trump.

Texas Republican Art Sisneros says he has reservations about the president-elect, but not because of the national popular vote. He told The Associated Press he won't vote for Clinton under any circumstance.

"As a Christian, I came to the conclusion that Mr. Trump is not biblically qualified for that office," he said.

He said he has heard from ecstatic Clinton supporters and even supportive Republicans, but also from outraged Trump backers writing "threatening and vile things."

Sisneros signed a state party pledge to support the GOP's standard-bearer, but that was before Trump was the official nominee. He said one of his options is to resign,

allowing the state party to choose another elector.

Electors are chosen by party officials and are typically the party's most loyal members. Presidential electors are not required to vote for a particular candidate under the Constitution. Even so, the National Archives says more than 99 percent of electors have voted as pledged throughout the nation's history.

Some state laws call for fines against "faithless electors," while others open them to possible felony charges, although the National Archives says no elector has ever been prosecuted for failing to vote as pledged. In North Carolina, a faithless elector's vote is canceled, and he or she must immediately resign and be replaced.

Debate over 'Hamilton' speech exposes post-election cracks

NEW YORK (AP)—President-elect Donald Trump demanded an apology from the cast of the Broadway musical "Hamilton" a day after an actor in the hit show delivered a pointed message about diversity to his running mate who was in attendance. The speech aimed at Mike Pence prompted angry responses from liberals and conservatives alike—underscoring yet again the fractious aftermath of the 2016 election.

The bitter back-and-forth came after the vice president-elect caught Friday night's performance of "Hamilton" with his nephew and daughter. A mixture of boos and cheers could be heard inside the theater as Pence took his seat. When the show ended, Pence was asked by a cast member to hear a prepared speech after the curtain call from the multiracial and multi-

cultural cast, saying it is concerned about the Trump administration.

"We, sir, we are the diverse America who are alarmed and anxious that your new administration will not protect us, our planet, our children, our parents, or defend us and uphold our inalienable rights," said Brandon Victor Dixon, who plays Aaron Burr, the nation's third vice president, as his fellow actors joined hands. "We truly hope that this show has inspired you to uphold our American values and to work on behalf of all of us."

The unusual address quickly went viral and Trump on Saturday tweeted that it was "very rude," arguing that Pence was "harassed" and theater "must always be a safe and special place." He urged the cast to apologize. Dixon responded on Twitter that "conversation is not ha-

arrassment sir" and added that he appreciated Pence stopping to listen.

Pence had ducked out before Dixon finished the unprecedented message but heard the full remarks from the hallway outside the auditorium.

Trump transition officials did not immediately respond to requests for comment. A representative for the show said none of the cast members would be available to speak Saturday.

Melissa Kremholz, of Indianapolis, the capital of Pence's home state of Indiana, attended the show Friday night and was seeing it again Saturday afternoon. She said she could see how Dixon's speech might be interpreted as impolite and gave Pence credit for coming, but backed the Broadway cast's right to explain how uneasy many Americans feel.

Hong Kong, Chile ink investment deal at APEC meeting

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong and Chile have signed a bilateral investment agreement on the sidelines of an Asian-Pacific summit in Peru.

The Hong Kong government said Saturday that the deal provides for investment disputes to be settled under internationally recognized rules.

The deal also allows for

Asia

Kin gather at Marcos' tomb amid protests

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Family members and followers of Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos gathered for a vigil at his tomb on Saturday, a day after his secrecy-shrouded burial at a heroes' cemetery triggered widespread protests three decades after the strongman's ouster.

Marcos' widow, Imelda, clad in black, thanked supporters and local officials who traveled by bus from Marcos' northern home province to pay their respects. She said they had given her family strength as they kept the hope for nearly 30 years to have Marcos buried at the country's Heroes' Cemetery, which is reserved for former presidents, national artists and soldiers.

Thousands of pro-democracy activists who rallied in Manila on Friday said the decades-long debate over Marcos' final resting place was far from over, and they were planning more protests in the days and weeks ahead.

President Rodrigo Duterte, who gave the go-ahead for the burial, appealed for calm.

"I know Ferdinand will at last be at rest here at the Heroes' Cemetery," Imelda Marcos said in front of a black tomb surrounded by wreaths of white flowers. "But I know we still have a lot of criticisms to face."

Her daughter, Ilocos Norte provincial Gov. Imee Marcos, and son Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. also thanked supporters and apologized for keeping the burial secret. The son said there were reports that anti-Marcos



AP

A portrait of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos is placed beside his granite tomb as hundreds of supporters attend a mass at his graveyard Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016, a day after Marcos was buried in a secrecy-shrouded ceremony at the Heroes' Cemetery in suburban Taguig city, east of Manila, Philippines.

groups would create trouble.

The burial threatens to open old wounds in the Philippines, where Marcos' 20-year iron-fist rule was marked by massive human rights violations and corruption. He was ousted in "people power" street protests in 1986 that sent him and his family into exile in Hawaii, where he died three years later.

Vice President Leni Robredo, who ran in May elections under Duterte's rival party, questioned why the burial was carried out even before a Supreme Court decision allowing it has become final.

"We are alarmed by the brazenness of its execution," she said in a speech. "Hidden wealth, hidden human rights abuses, and now a hidden burial with complete disrespect for the rule of law."

Bonifacio Ilagan, a left-wing activist who was detained and tortured during Marcos' rule,

said the dictator was buried "like a thief in the night."

"This is so Marcos style. I want to rush to the cemetery to protest this. I feel so enraged," Ilagan told The Associated Press on Friday.

A lawmaker considered asking the Supreme Court to exhume the newly buried Marcos. But Duterte, who is attending an Asia-Pacific summit in Lima, Peru, said through his spokesman that "hopefully both sides will exercise maximum tolerance and come to terms with the burial."

The powerful Marcos family has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing, and after returning from U.S. exile in 1991, Imelda Marcos and two of her children eventually ran for public office and won stunning political comebacks. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. ran for vice president in May and lost by a slim margin to Robredo.

Train derails in north India, killing 90 and trapping others

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—Rescue workers used gas cutters to pull out survivors after 14 coaches of a passenger train rolled off the track, killing at least 90 people in northern India early Sunday, police said.

The bodies were retrieved from the mangled coaches that fell on the side after the train derailed around 3:10 a.m., jolting awake passengers who had settled in for the overnight journey. More than 150 were injured as some coaches crumpled when they crashed into others, trapping hundreds of people inside.

"There are people trapped inside. We are being very careful in using the gas cutters," said Daljeet Chaudhary, a director general of police. He said the toll was likely to rise as rescue workers were yet to gain access to some of the worst damaged coaches.

The derailment occurred near Pukhrayan, a village near

the industrial city of Kanpur.

Rescuers used gas cutters to open the derailed coaches to reach those trapped inside, while cranes were deployed to lift the coaches from the tracks.

Medical teams were providing first aid near the site while the more seriously injured were moved to hospitals in Kanpur, Chaudhary said. At least two dozen suffered serious injuries, he said.

Passenger Satish Kumar said that the train was traveling at normal speed when it stopped suddenly.

"It restarted, and then we heard a crash. When we came out of the train, we saw a few coaches had derailed," said Kumar, whose coach remained standing on the track.

It was not immediately clear was caused the coaches to derail.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his concern

over the derailment.

"Anguished beyond words on the loss of lives due to the derailling of the Patna-Indore express. My thoughts are with the bereaved families," Modi posted on his Twitter account.

Kanpur is a major railway junction and hundreds of trains pass through it every day. Several trains using the line have been diverted to other routes, Anil Saxena, spokesman for Indian Railways, said in New Delhi.

Accidents are relatively common on India's sprawling rail network, which is one of the world's largest but lacks modern signaling and communication systems. Most crashes are blamed on poor maintenance and human error.

Trains are the popular mode of transport for millions of Indians and around 23 million passengers use India's vast railway network every day.

World

What more to discuss? For Obama and world leaders it's Trump

LIMA, Peru (AP)—Trying to tie up loose ends of his foreign policy agenda, President Barack Obama on Saturday instead found world leaders more focused on someone else: President-elect Donald Trump.

Global hand-wringing over America's next president has taken much of the wind out of Obama's final overseas trip. Adopting an altruistic tone, Obama has offered frequent reassurances that the U.S. won't renege on its commitments. Yet he's been at a loss to quell concerns fully, given new signals from Trump that he intends to govern much the way he campaigned.

Obama's visit to Peru, the last stop on his trip, has brought those concerns to the forefront: Much of Latin America is on edge about a potentially dramatic shift in U.S. immigration policy under Trump. And Asian leaders gathered in Lima for an Asia-Pacific economic summit are trying to game out what Trump's presidency will mean for trade with the world's largest economy.

"We're going to have a busy agenda," Obama said as he sat down with leaders of countries in the Trans-Pacific Partner-

ship, the sweeping free trade deal with Asia that Obama painstakingly brokered.

It was unclear whether their agenda was really as busy as all that. Vehemently opposed to the Pacific agreement and similar deals, Trump has vowed it won't be ratified on his watch. In an acknowledgement of that political reality, the White House has stopped actively lobbying Congress to try to pass it.

In fact, Obama didn't mention the trade deal at all as reporters were allowed in briefly for the beginning of his meeting with TPP nations, which include Mexico, Chile, Japan, Australia and Vietnam. Instead, Obama called it a useful occasion to talk about creating jobs, opportunity and prosperity.

To be sure, any president would have less to discuss with other leaders in the final months than when years of governing stretch ahead. Obama's typically jam-packed schedule on foreign trips has been notably lighter on this trip, with long stretches of downtime. Yet Trump's election, with the sharp shift in approach it's expected to bring, has put a spotlight on Obama's lame-duck status.

Activists: Intense bombing of Syria's Aleppo kills 20

BEIRUT (AP)—Government bombardment of besieged rebel-held neighborhoods in Aleppo killed at least 20 people Saturday, the worst since airstrikes resumed earlier this week, said Syrian opposition activists, as the U.S. called for an end to the bombings.

Saturday was the fifth day of renewed assaults by Syrian warplanes on eastern Aleppo districts, a rebel-held enclave of 275,000 people. The onslaught began Tuesday, when Syria's ally Russia announced its own offensive on the northern rebel-controlled Idlib province and Homs province in central Syria.

The bombing on Saturday came after a day of airstrikes that hit four hospitals in east Aleppo. A statement issued late Friday by the opposition's Aleppo Health Directorate said that all hospitals in east Aleppo are out of service because of the bombing over the past days.

"The intentional destruction of infrastructure for survival has made the besieged steadfast people, including children, elderly and men and women, without medical

facilities to treat them," the statement said.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said not all hospitals in east Aleppo neighborhoods are out of service but people are finding difficulties reaching them because of the intensity of the shelling.

The White House meanwhile demanded an immediate halt to Syrian strikes on eastern Aleppo. White House National Security Adviser Susan Rice said the U.S. is tracking reports about health conditions.

Speaking in Peru, Rice said the U.S. condemns the "horrific attacks" against hospitals and aid workers "in the strongest possible terms". Rice added there was "no excuse" for the attacks.

The White House is putting the onus on Russia to lower the violence and help humanitarian aid get to besieged Syrians. It says President Barack Obama joins other leaders in Europe, and those gathering for an Asia economic summit in Peru over the weekend, in demanding a halt to bombings.

Opposition activists said Saturday's death toll has been

Obama has made it a tradition to attend the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit. His attendance this year was designed to reinforce the importance of that venue, even though it's unlikely at this stage of his presidency he will secure any new major agreements with other countries or shift direction in any major ways.

His visit also offered a chance for a round of farewell meetings, including with President Xi Jinping of China, a sometimes U.S. rival. Xi commended Obama for "active efforts" to grow U.S.-China ties. Obama, with just a hint of nostalgia, noted it was their last meeting, and called the two countries' relationship the most consequential in the world.

Before returning to Washington, Obama will sit down Sunday with Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. He also will participate in a pull-aside with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, Obama's chief antagonist on the world stage, was also in Lima, but the White House did not expect them to have any substantive interaction.

the worst since the aerial campaign resumed on Tuesday. Residents said hundreds of artillery shells and dozens of airstrikes have hit the city, increasing the misery of its residents who have been suffering from lack of food and medicine because of the siege imposed by government forces and their allies in July.

"Aleppo is being wiped out in front of the eyes of the world," medical official Mohammed Abu Rajab said in an audio message to The Associated Press from inside the city. "It's not only hospitals that are out of service. All liberated areas in Aleppo are out of service."

"Entire buildings have been completely destroyed," Abu Rajab said.

The Observatory said Syrian government warplanes and artillery struck more than 20 neighborhoods in east Aleppo killing 27 people and wounding many others.

The Aleppo Media Council, an activist collective, said 20 people, including children, were killed in Saturday's violence in the country's largest city and former commercial center.

Health & Fitness

NBA 2K partners with Fitbit to get gamers off couch

Just like real NBA players, video gamers who put in the pain are going to see the gain.

Only in this case, the pain comes from real-world practice for rewards enjoyed virtually.

Video game developer, San Francisco-based 2K, has figured out a novel way to deal with one of the biggest criticisms leveled at the industry, that it promotes lethargy.

2K, makers of the best-selling NBA 2K17 basketball game, will reward players who manage to take 10,000 steps a day, as measured by a Fitbit fitness tracker. They will get some extra advantages when they play the game.

Suddenly, their character in the game will be doing a better job of competing against the NBA's best. They will be more agile and capable of more layups and dunks. Their game performance temporarily improves over the next five games they play that day as a reward for the physical exercise they accomplished.

Gamers will see the benefit when playing in the MyPlayer and MyPark game modes, where users can create their own characters and pit them against NBA players in a virtual career or take them online to play against other gamers' players.

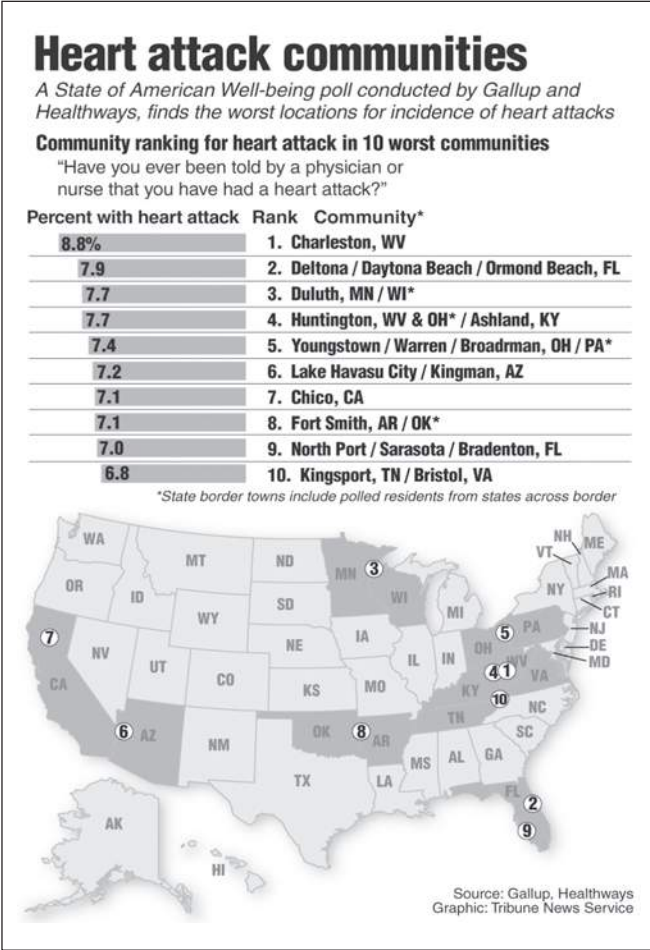
For Fitbit, the goal of the partnership is to lure millennials to the company's line of trackers. Around six months ago, the wearables company reached out to game maker 2K to explore a potential partnership.

"We target a wide range of consumers," said Tim Rosa, senior vice president of global marketing at Fitbit, in an interview with USA TODAY. "But with this partnership, obviously, we're going after that core 2K gamer."

About one in four 2K players are millennials, according to Alfie Brody, vice president of marketing for NBA 2K. Brody notes that while it is a notable percentage, the company attracts players that range from high school age to those in their "late thirties, early forties."

"From our perspective, it's targeting the whole base," said Brody. "There's an inaccurate perception...that gamers aren't active."

"We just want to add another incentive. To not only enjoy the game, our game, but also go out and burn some calories, and participate in exercise and



then be rewarded accordingly," Brody said.

To help get the message across, the companies have brought on Harrison Barnes, a forward with the NBA's Dallas Mavericks. Barnes, a fan of the video game series dating back to his time at the University of North Carolina, is also a Fitbit global ambassador and is encouraged by the partnership.

"The partnership was genius," says the 24-year old Barnes. The goal was "just to be able to make fitness fun."

While Fitbit recommends using one of its devices for more precise tracking, the free Fitbit mobile app on a phone will also work. Available for iOS or Android, the app can track steps on most current iPhones and Android phones.

Players do, however, need to be playing the game on either an Xbox One or PlayStation 4 system.

The launch of the feature next week is only the first stage of Fitbit and 2K's partnership. Both companies are exploring offering a package of a fitness tracker and a copy of the game at Best Buy and Target.

Also possible: an expansion in what activities are measured. As of right now, only steps are counted, though both sides note that it is possible future versions will track basketball moves such as shooting and dribbling. (TNS)

In God's Loving Care

Emilio Aldan Ayuyu

Lovingly known as Mil "Makaka"

In his new life, he now joins his:
Father: †Jose DLC. Ayuyu
Mother: †Margarita A. Ayuyu

His memory will forever live in the hearts of his:
Brothers, Sisters and their families.
†Felix A. / Rosalinda J. Ayuyu and Family
†Antonia A. Ayuyu and Family
Virginia I. / Wilfredo Imperial and Family
†Ramon A. Ayuyu
†Jose A. / Nieves Babauta and Family
†Edward A. / Jannelyn Ayuyu and Family
†William A. Ayuyu
†William A. Ayuyu
Maria A. / Jianmin Han and Family
Sophia A. Ayuyu and Family
†Alexandro A. Ayuyu
†Lorenzo A. Ayuyu
Leonora A. Blas and Family

Special thanks to Cristine and Jennifer Cruz and their family who tirelessly took care of Emilio A. Ayuyu while he was in Guam.

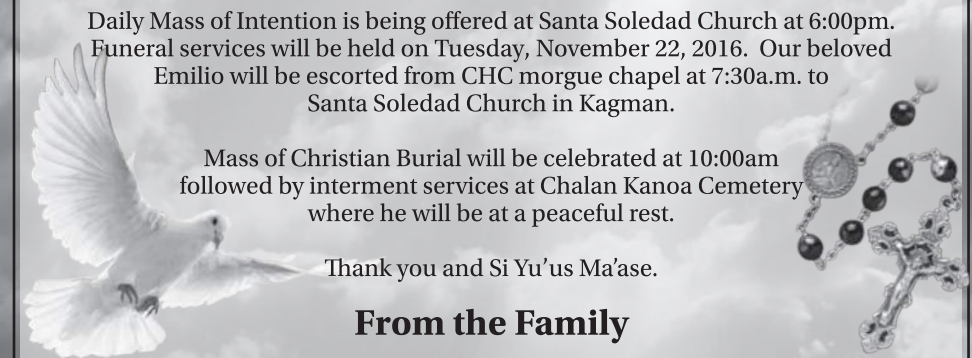
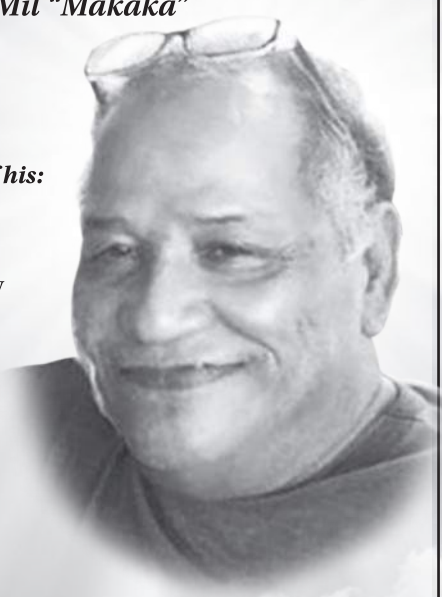
He is also survived by numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Daily Mass of Intention is being offered at Santa Soledad Church at 6:00pm.
Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2016. Our beloved Emilio will be escorted from CHC morgue chapel at 7:30a.m. to Santa Soledad Church in Kagman.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am followed by interment services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

From the Family



First Year Death Anniversary

In Loving Memory of

† HERMAN HERBERT SABLAN DEL ROSARIO

We, the family, would like to invite you to join us in prayer as we commemorate the 1st Year Death Anniversary of our Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather, and friend.

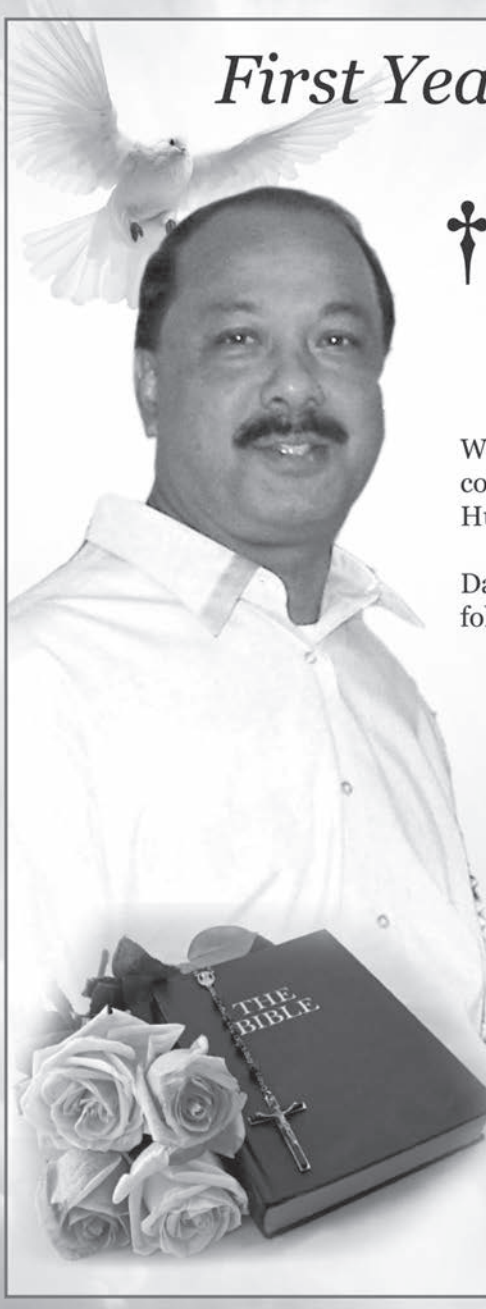
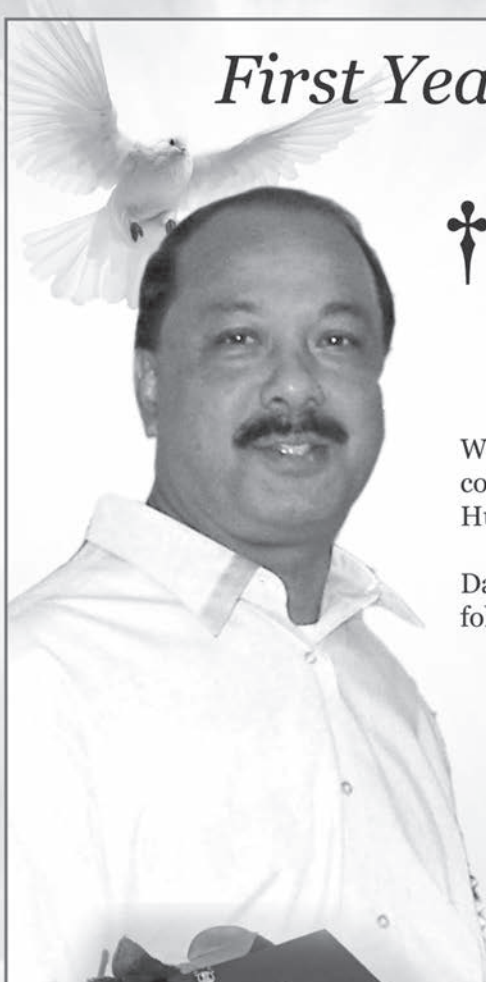
Daily Mass will be offered at San Antonio Church on the following days:

Day	Date	Time	Location
Friday	November 25,	6 pm	San Antonio Church
Saturday	November 26,	6 pm	San Antonio Church
Sunday	November 27,	9 am	San Antonio Church
Monday	November 28,	6 pm	San Antonio Church
Tuesday	November 29,	6 pm	San Antonio Church
Wednesday	November 30,	6 pm	San Antonio Church
Thursday	December 1,	6 pm	San Antonio Church
Friday	December 2,	6 pm	San Antonio Church
Saturday	December 3,	6 pm	San Antonio Church

On the final day, Saturday, December 3, 2016, mass will be offered at 6:00 pm at San Antonio Church, followed by dinner at the family's residence in San Antonio.

Your prayers and presence will be humbly appreciated!

Si Yu'us Ma'ase & Thank you!
Rose, Children, Grandchildren, and Family



Life & Style

AP: Too quiet on the set; filming accidents often go untold

LOS ANGELES (AP)—As hundreds of names scrolled up the screen after 2012's "The Avengers," moviegoers who remained glued to their seats for a taste of the next treat in Marvel's superhero universe didn't know one name was missing—that of John Suttles, a truck driver who died helping make the \$1.5 billion blockbuster.

Every year, workers on both sides of the camera are maimed, burned, break bones and even die striving to deliver entertainment that packs multiplexes and commands top TV ratings. Injuries come not just from obvious risks such as stunts and explosives, but from falls off ladders, toppled equipment and machines without safety guards.

Yet in an industry where virtually everything is tallied and every success is touted, set accidents remain largely hidden and the consequences usually amount to mere thousands of dollars in fines paid out of multimillion-dollar budgets.

The Associated Press determined that since 1990, at least 43 people have died on sets in the U.S. and more than 150 have been left with life-altering injuries, numbers derived by combing through data from workplace and aviation safety investigations, court records and news accounts. And those figures don't always tell the entire story: The AP found several instances in which major accidents did not appear in an Occupational Safety and Health Administration database of the most serious accidents.

The most glaring omission is the 1993 shooting death of actor Brandon Lee during filming of the movie "The Crow," despite North Carolina OSHA officials amassing a 1,500-page investigative file. An agency spokesman blamed a clerical error.

Internationally, at least 37 people have died in filming accidents since 2000, including a worker killed Aug. 26 in Budapest on the set of the "Blade Runner" sequel.

Injuries to actors typically make headlines, like Harrison Ford's broken leg on the seventh "Star Wars" film in 2014. But that's not the case when most off-screen workers are hurt.

"I think it's always been something that's been swept under the rug," said Stephen Farber, a journalist who chronicled the aftermath of the deadly 1982 "Twilight Zone" helicopter crash that

5 filming accidents that rocked, helped shape the industry

1 "Twilight Zone: The Movie": The 1982 helicopter crash that killed actor Vic Morrow and two children on the movie's Santa Clarita, California, set shook the film industry and led to new safety standards for the use of choppers. Morrow and the children were killed while filming a scene after debris from explosions rose 100 feet in the air and damaged the copter's rotor. Director John Landis and four others were acquitted of involuntary manslaughter charges in a rare prosecution targeting a film production for on-set deaths. The families of the child actors killed settled civil lawsuits years later.

2 "Midnight Rider": Assistant camera operator Sarah Jones was killed in February 2014 filming a Gregg Allman biopic in rural Georgia when she was hit by a train. The production did not have permission to be on the train tracks, and prosecutors filed criminal charges against director Randall Miller, who pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter and criminal trespassing charges. He was released after serving half of a two-year sentence, and his company is

contesting a \$74,900 fine by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Jones' death sparked a heightened focus within the industry on film set safety, and her parents continue to wage a campaign to improve safety for set workers.

3 "The Crow": Actor Brandon Lee died when he was shot in the abdomen while filming a scene in March 1993 in Wilmington, North Carolina. The film already had been plagued by money and safety issues—a construction worker was badly burned a month earlier. Lee, the son of martial arts legend Bruce Lee, was killed after a worker created a makeshift bullet that was mistakenly left in a gun used to film the scene. OSHA fined the production \$84,000 for violations found after Lee's death, but the penalty later was reduced to \$55,000. Lee's death led to changes in how firearms are treated on sets.

4 "Cops": An audio technician for the long-running TV reality series was killed in Omaha, Nebraska, while filming an attempted armed robbery at a fast-food restaurant in August 2014. Boston native Bryce Dion's death prompted

OSHA to recommend additional training and safety instruction for the show's crew members, including teaching workers how to film shootings from farther away and removing incentives that encouraged employees to take risks to capture more action-packed stories. Dion was the first person killed in the history of "Cops," which premiered in 1989 and follows on-duty police officers in various agencies in the United States.

5 "Untitled Military Project": An early-morning helicopter crash in a remote area north of Los Angeles in February 2013 killed three people filming a planned reality TV series for the Discovery Channel. The shoot occurred on a moonless night and the pilot wasn't wearing night vision goggles at the time of the crash; federal investigators also determined that a light used to illuminate an actor's face in the cockpit hampered the pilot's ability to fly. The National Transportation Safety Board faulted the pilot, who was among those killed in the worst domestic filming accident since the "Twilight Zone" crash, for flying in unsafe conditions. (AP)



This July 23, 1982 file photo shows the crash site where actor Vic Morrow and two children were killed during the filming of movie "The Twilight Zone" in Santa Clarita, Calif.

killed actor Vic Morrow and two children.

OSHA investigates most workplace accidents, whether they take place on a movie set, a factory or a farm.

The death of Lee, superstar Bruce Lee's son, prompted changes on how firearms are treated on sets. Yet it also illustrates the paltry sums companies face after serious accidents. OSHA fined "The Crow" producers \$84,000—the highest filming fine levied since 1990—but later re-

duced the penalty to \$55,000. "The Crow" grossed more than \$50 million.

The AP's review found that in nearly half the instances where OSHA fined studios after a serious accident, the penalty was reduced.

John Suttles fell from the back of a truck he was preparing to drive from a Los Angeles studio to an "Avengers" set in New Mexico. In his case, a film company affiliated with Marvel owner Walt Disney paid a \$745 fine for not having

proper hand-holds on the truck and not supplying drivers with first-aid kits.

The Vietnam War veteran had just a few hours of sleep before he was called back to pick up the Marvel load and had been working on "The Avengers" for weeks, said daughter Lanette Leon, even ducking out early from his 65th birthday party to make a delivery for the then-secretive film.

Leon said her only interaction with the companies after

her father's death was going through the arduous process of securing enough workers' compensation money to cover her son's schooling, which Suttles had been paying for. Workers' compensation is the "exclusive remedy" for the vast majority of workers injured on the job and the families of those killed and prevents them from suing unless their cases fall into a handful of narrow exceptions.

"It was very disheartening to see that in the end, that they treated him like a number," Leon said.

Marvel and Disney did not respond to questions about Suttles' accident.

Hassan Adan, a regional manager for California's workplace safety agency, said settlements are determined on a case-by-case basis and are intended to correct dangerous situations. "We try to err on

the side of safety," he said.

Some within the industry say that, along with concerns about workers' well-being, heavier cost-related factors are a bigger safety incentive than fines.

"Producers never want to have any accident during the filming of a motion picture. It can be expensive," said veteran entertainment attorney Richard Charnley. "They're valuable people. Sometimes you're paying hundreds of thousands a day to film."

A broad coalition—including the major Hollywood studios and labor unions—conducts monthly safety meetings and has created its own training program. Since 2003, the Safety Pass program has trained more than 50,000 workers in many areas of production, and it will begin an ambitious program this year to give refresher courses to tens of thousands of set workers.

Some accidents, like the February 2014 death of assistant camera operator Sarah Jones on a Georgia train trestle, become catalysts for broader safety discussions.

Earlier this year, Jones' parents brought a hush to a crowded set in Los Angeles, where actresses Shirley MacLaine and Amanda Seyfried prepared to shoot a scene for the upcoming film "The Last Word." Richard Jones described his daughter's frantic last moments before imploring the crew, "Please look out for each other."

MacLaine stepped forward, telling the Joneses, "Thanks for reminding all of us we've got to protect each other."

Moments like these are key to their mission of improving safety for workers in a collaborative way.

"She loved the industry," Richard Jones said of his daughter. "We don't want to tear it down. We want to make it better and make it safer."

Lennon's Beatles breakup letter sold at auction for \$30,000

BOSTON (AP)—An angry letter from John Lennon to Paul and Linda McCartney written shortly after the Beatles' breakup has been sold at auction for nearly \$30,000.

The two-page typed draft, with handwritten annotations by Lennon, was sold Thursday by Boston-based RR Auction.

RR says the letter is believed to have been written in 1971 in response to criticism Lennon received from Linda McCartney about his

decision to not publicly announce his departure from the band.

The profanity-filled and sometimes rambling letter reads: "Do you really think most of today's art came about because of the Beatles? I don't believe you're that insane—Paul—do you believe that? When you stop believing it you might wake up!"

The letter was sold to a collector in Dallas who requested anonymity.

Alibaba, 'Harry Potter' producer to make 'Warriors' movie

BEIJING (AP)—The film unit of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba and the British "Harry Potter" producer David Heyman announced Sunday that they will make a fantasy movie "Warriors" based on a book series about warring cats.

The live action film with computer-generated cats is based on the British books for young adults about clans of wild cats, with themes including adventure, forbidden love and good versus evil. The series has a fan following in countries including China, and the film is intended for world-

wide audiences.

Heyman, an independent film producer behind "Paddington" and "Gravity," said he sought out Alibaba when he was in China almost two years ago on a trip to promote "Paddington," British creativity and British-Chinese cultural exchange.

"This is becoming the largest market in the world so you are looking to understand that market," he said at a news conference at the British Embassy in Beijing.

"It's hard to get a film made today, I've had some success but every time you start a film



you start a new business, so I'm always looking for people over the world."

He said that unlike some movies jointly produced by China and the West where

British "Harry Potter" producer David Heyman gives his autographs for fans during an event at the British Embassy in Beijing Sunday, Nov. 20, 2016.

"you feel the marriage is forced... something that is just done because you want Chinese money," "Warriors" "is such a perfect Chinese-British story" because its values are universal."

Heyman said it was too early to say how much of the creative team will be Chinese and they still don't have a script for the film, which will likely be

in 3-D. There's no guarantee the movie will be shown in China, he added.

Alibaba Pictures Group was formed in 2014. Its first film, "The Ferryman," comes out next month.

It has already invested in Hollywood films including "Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation" and "Star Trek Beyond," and in October announced it would partner with Stephen Spielberg's Amblin Partners to co-produce films for global audiences.

Alibaba Pictures secured the film rights to "Warriors" last month.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Former 'Survivor' contestant convicted on child porn charges

DETROIT (AP)—A former "Survivor" contestant who had to be medevacked after falling into a campfire and burning his hands has been convicted of possessing child pornography. Michael Skupin, who burned himself during the 2001 series "Survivor II: The Australian Outback" and who returned for "Survivor: Philippines," was convicted Friday on four of six child porn possession counts by jurors in Oakland County, near Detroit. He faces up to four years in prison on each count and is due to be sentenced Dec. 27. Investigators say they discovered the child porn on Skupin's laptop while investigating an alleged Ponzi scheme he is accused of orchestrating. He faces financial fraud charges and is due in court next week in that case.

Jury rules against man who claimed he created Kung Fu Panda

BOSTON (AP)—A Massachusetts man who claims he first came up with the character and story for the 2008 animated movie Kung Fu Panda has been convicted of wire fraud and perjury charges. Fifty-one-year-old Jayme Gordon had filed a lawsuit in 2011 designed to obtain a multimillion-dollar settlement from DreamWorks Animation SKG. Prosecutors said Gordon fabricated and backdated drawings of characters similar to those in Kung Fu Panda, lied repeatedly dur-

ing his deposition and destroyed computer evidence. Prosecutors said beyond what they called superficial similarities, the panda characters and story that Gordon created have little in common with DreamWorks' movie. A federal jury convicted Gordon on Friday on four counts of wire fraud and three counts of perjury. U.S. District Court Chief Judge Patti Saris scheduled sentencing for March 30, 2017.

Beastie Boys' Adam Yauch playground vandalized with swastika

NEW YORK (AP)—A Brooklyn playground named for the late Beastie Boys' star Adam Yauch had been vandalized with swastikas and the words "Go Trump!" Photos show the swastika and words were spray-painted on playground equipment in the Brooklyn Heights neighborhood. The city named the park for the late rapper, who was Jewish, in 2013. He died of cancer in 2012 at the age of 47. New York City Councilman Brad Lander said police were investigating and a Parks Department spokesman said Saturday the graffiti was removed. It was one of several recent instances of the Nazi symbol being found around New York and in other parts of the country. The playground includes basketball courts, a community garden, a greenhouse, fitness area, an open play space, drinking fountains and a dog run.

Sharon Stone takes a stand against rape on college campuses

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Sharon Stone has turned a celebrity spotlight on the issue of sexual assault on college campuses.

The actress delivered an emotional tribute Friday to the woman who was assaulted while unconscious last year by a former Stanford University swimmer.

Stone took the stage at Santa Clara University during a symposium on campus sexual

assault and wiped back tears during a 25-minute reading of excerpts of the victim's letter to her attacker, Brock Turner.

Afterward, Stone called the letter "monumentally powerful" and said it was impossible to read "without having it just impale your heart and soul."

The victim's letter swept through social media, galvanizing critics of Turner's sentence and igniting a debate about campus rape and the

criminal justice system. Turner was released after serving half of his six-month sentence.

The victim has not been publicly identified, and her letter has been called the "Emily Doe letter."

"There are many Emily Does, many women who have not been heard, and we need to change the culture and the laws" around sexual assault, said Stone, who said she felt the case was "poorly handled."

Record sale for a rare Tintin drawing in Paris auction

PARIS (AP)—A rare drawing from one of Tintin's most famous comic books, "Explorers on the Moon," was sold Saturday for a record 1.55 million euros (\$1.64 million), auction house Artcurial said.

The record sale for a single cartoon drawing has been reached in a Paris auction.

The original drawing in Chinese ink by Belgian artist Georges Remi, who wrote under the pen name of Herge, shows the fearless reporter, his white dog Snowy and his friend Captain Haddock in spacesuits, walking

on the moon for the first time and looking at the Earth.

They can be seen, on page 26 of the book, running and making big jumps, to their surprise because of the lower gravity on the moon.

The drawing was initially estimated to fetch between 700,000 and 900,000 euros.

The book, first published in 1954, is a favorite among comic strips lovers.

In a separate auction sale on Saturday by Christie's, another original drawing from "Explorers on the Moon" was sold

for 600,000 euros (\$635,000). Page 59 of the book shows the rocket reaching Earth in dramatic circumstances. The book's heroes aren't visible.

"The Adventures of Tintin" have been translated into 70-plus languages and sold tens of millions of copies. They have been made into a movie in 2011 by Steven Spielberg.

The sales come as Herge, often referred to as the father of the European comic strip, is the subject of a major exhibition at the Grand Palais in Paris until mid-January.

Suggest that holiday critics step up and lend a hand

DEAR ABBY: The holidays are coming, and this year it's my turn to host Thanksgiving. I'm a full-time working mom with two active children, and I also volunteer. No matter how hard I will work at cleaning my house before the relatives come, I know there'll be areas that aren't spotless. There's just not enough time in the schedule.

I have relatives who will make sure to point out what needs to be done, or critique how I have arranged my furniture, or what I did or didn't prepare for the meal. How do I graciously handle these comments? I want to be an example to my children on how to be a gracious hostess, even when dealing with critical or rude comments.

UNDER PRESSURE IN OHIO

DEAR UNDER PRESSURE: You would be amazed what a person can get away with if it's said with a warm smile. If someone criticizes your housekeeping, smile and say, "Oh, really? I must have missed it. The vacuum cleaner is in the closet. Be an angel and take care of it for me, will you?" The same goes for where you keep your duster.

If your relatives don't like what's on your menu, suggest sweetly that next time they come they bring something they will enjoy. It would be a lot more gracious than showing the person the door.

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a relationship with a wonderful man for more than a year. He has sole custody of his 10-year-old son, "Jordan." Because of our financial circumstances at the time, we moved in with each other right away. Jordan's mother is not in the picture and, unfortunately, I inherited her parenting responsibilities because of it.

Jordan is a sweet boy, but I have no emotional attachment to him. To be honest, I'm disappointed every time he walks in the door after school and I'm forced to stop what I am doing in order to care for him.

Abby, I thought I would become more attached to Jordan as time went on, but instead, I'm feeling resentful. I'm embarrassed to have made a commitment to this man and his son and to have ended up in this situation. I don't want to break up with the love of my life, but I don't want to sacrifice the next eight years of my life raising a child who isn't mine. Do you have any advice for me?

CONFLICTED IN SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

DEAR CONFLICTED: Yes, as a matter of fact, I do. If Jordan's father is really "the love of your life," you had better accept that he and his son are a package deal and treat the child with love. If you can't manage that, then do them both a favor and bow out of the picture NOW.

P.S. And because none of this is Jordan's fault, while you're packing, assure him that your leaving has nothing

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



to do with him, only with you. It's the truth, and that way, he won't blame himself for something that's not his fault.

DEAR ABBY: My son was married twice to different women. I had two daughters-in-law. He is now married to a man. Is his spouse my son-in-law?

MOM IN MAINE

DEAR MOM: Yes. Refer to him as your son-in-law and, if your son is finally happy with his spouse, your "son-in-love."

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

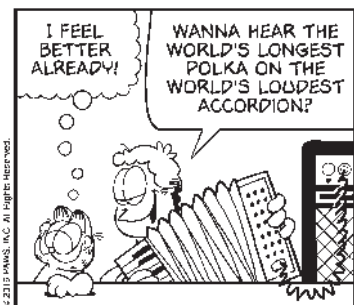
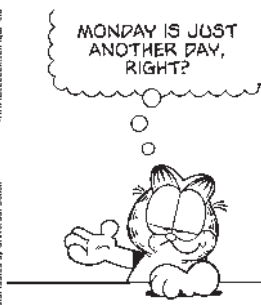
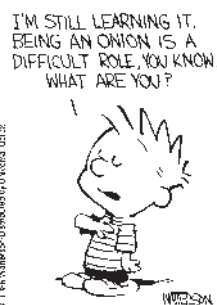
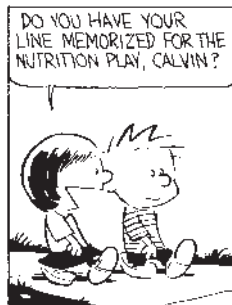
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Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

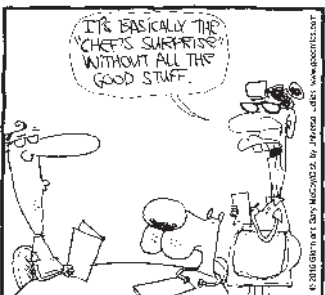


Adam@home

By Bryan Bassett

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Irish dance
4 Black-board need
9 Atlas page
12 Altar constellation
13 Island porch
14 "Hall!"
15 Metallic element
17 Showbiz job
18 Sphere
19 Bout segments
21 Dead man walking?
24 Con
25 "This — test"
26 Animation frame
28 Western flick
31 Gymnast Korb
33 Apprehend
35 Luau dance

DOWN

36 Music for nine
38 "Hum-bug!"
40 Calendar box
41 Eventful periods
43 Alpine songs
45 Snappy reply
47 Undivided
48 Yale grad
49 Mississippi emblems
54 Sit-up targets
55 Modify
56 Cistern
57 Weir
58 Coagulates

39 "Rah!"
42 Hexagonal state
21 National park in 20-Down
22 Norway's capital
23 Attraction
27 Science room
29 Israeli airline
30 Beams
32 Aviation prefix
34 Rifle attachment
37 Runway surface
39 Esteems
42 Play for time
44 N.J. neighbor
45 Peruse
46 Exile isle
50 Sporty Pontiac
51 Wall climber
52 Motorist's org.
53 Pigs' digs

Solution time: 26 mins.

H	A	M	F	H	A	W	V	A	I
A	V	A	G	A	R	A	U	S	I
I	O	N	O	V	E	R	S	L	E
S	I	N	S	E	L	F	L	P	
F	C	A	M	N	F	C	A	L	R
A	D	A	G	E	C	I	F	F	E
M	A	G	N	E	T	R	O	O	
I	D	E	A	T	D	A	S	L	A
S	L	E	E	P	O	V	E	R	E
P	A	S	S	E	I	L	E	C	E
A	C	T	E	D	-	Y	E	H	E

Friday's answer 11 - 21

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Carly Rae Jepsen, 31; Jena Malone, 32; Michael Strahan, 45; Goldie Hawn, 71.

Happy Birthday: Learn from past experiences and remain calm this year. Make the most out of what you have to work with and consider how you can utilize your talents to best suit your needs. Think matters through and search for practical applications that will bring long-term results. Personal stability should be your goal. Don't let someone from your past jeopardize your happiness. Your numbers are 4, 9, 15, 24, 29, 38, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A slow, steady pace aimed at getting as much accomplished as possible will help alleviate interference. You can think big as long as you stay within your financial limitations. Observing others carefully will increase your skills and knowledge. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Show curiosity about others and you will connect with someone who shares an unusual interest or idea with you. Romance is on the rise, and plans to do something with a family member or close friend will enhance your personal life. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't count on anyone. Do the work yourself and tailor your plans to suit you. Walk away from anyone who tries to persuade you to get involved or do things that aren't in your best interest. Emotional manipulation is apparent. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your thoughts, ideas and plans. Not everyone will come on board with you, but those

who do will be helpful and encourage you to finish what you start. Simplicity will be your guide to a better life and future. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't lose perspective when playing. Stay in the game without letting your ego or your emotions take over. Generosity will play a major role in drumming up support and being talked about behind your back. Choose to be kind. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep an open mind and a loving disposition. You can't please everyone, but you can offer a kind word and a willingness to listen. A personal change will make you feel good and encourage you to present your qualifications. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your help will be taken advantage of if you aren't quick to ask for something in return. Use intelligence to control situations that have the potential to turn sour. Take action instead of waiting for things to come to you. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Step outside your comfort zone and you will discover something unique. A chance to explore something new will raise eyebrows. Follow your heart and you will exceed your expectations. Romance will lead to a change of status or reputation. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't take anything or anyone for granted. Double-check every aspect of your plans and take notes or record important meetings. Information will be readily given, but it may not be accurate. Research will be required to avoid mistakes. ★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

7		1		5			8
	3		1	8		4	7
	2			9			1
4		8				3	
	7			1		9	
	9				6		5
5			2			4	
	8	4		7	3		1
3			8			7	2

Difficulty Level ★

11/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

6	5	3	9	4	8	7	2	1
1	9	2	3	6	7	8	5	4
4	8	7	2	1	5	3	6	9
7	1	6	4	3	9	5	8	2
5	4	9	8	2	6	1	7	3
3	2	8	7	5	1	4	9	6
8	7	1	6	9	3	2	4	5
2	6	5	1	7	4	9	3	8
9	3	4	5	8	2	6	1	7

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★

11/21

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Jump at a chance to make extra cash. Whether you are downsizing, cutting corners or investing in a sideline business, bringing in extra cash looks promising. However, be careful not to let greed take over and ruin a good deal. ★★★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be careful how you deal with partners. Speak directly so you are not in danger of being misinterpreted. Caution will prevent anyone from taking advantage of you. Use your intelligence and strong work ethic to make the best choices and alterations in your life. ★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotions will cloud your vision. Don't expect anyone to give you a direct response or answer. If you want to know how to respond, you will have to dig deep and get the facts. Act responsibly and without malice. ★★★



Birthdays: You are creative, insightful and sensitive. You are imaginative and outgoing.

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ARNOLD PALMER (1929-2016)

Solution: 7 letters

P E I N N I W P R O H T W A G
T I T L E E D E S I G N T N T
S H L Y G G E P H A R N I E S
S R E O R E Z L A W E W L K L
I D E B T M I T H J S N L S O
R E R T I A S Y E T A I E B I
O Z U A S G R R N A A C Y U S
D I O I W A T E E N M K K L E
E R T R G A M H A D Y L Y C M
R A A P L A Y E R G N A M O A
F L G O N K I N D E A U R U J
L U P R E F F L O G A E S A R E
I P U T E B O R T A L L G S R
M O D E E R F T R O P S O E R
T P R O F E S S I O N A L H Y

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Airport, Amy, Army, Arnie's, Awards, Clubs, Course, Design, Doris, Freedom, Game, Gary, Gawthorp, Golfer, Hole, Jack, James, Jerry, Kathleen, Kind, Latrobe, Lois, Masters, Medals, Milfred, Nicklaus, Peggy, PGA Tour, Pilot, Player, Popularized, Professional, Saga, Saunders, Sport, Swing, Team, The Big Three, Tilley, Title, Tournaments, Walzer, Winnie

Last Friday's Answer: Tea
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STUMPED?

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SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 21, 2016 **TIME: 11:00 A.M.**

**“PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TRACTOR MOWER
WITH 3 ATTACHMENTS FOR TINIAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF
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THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND
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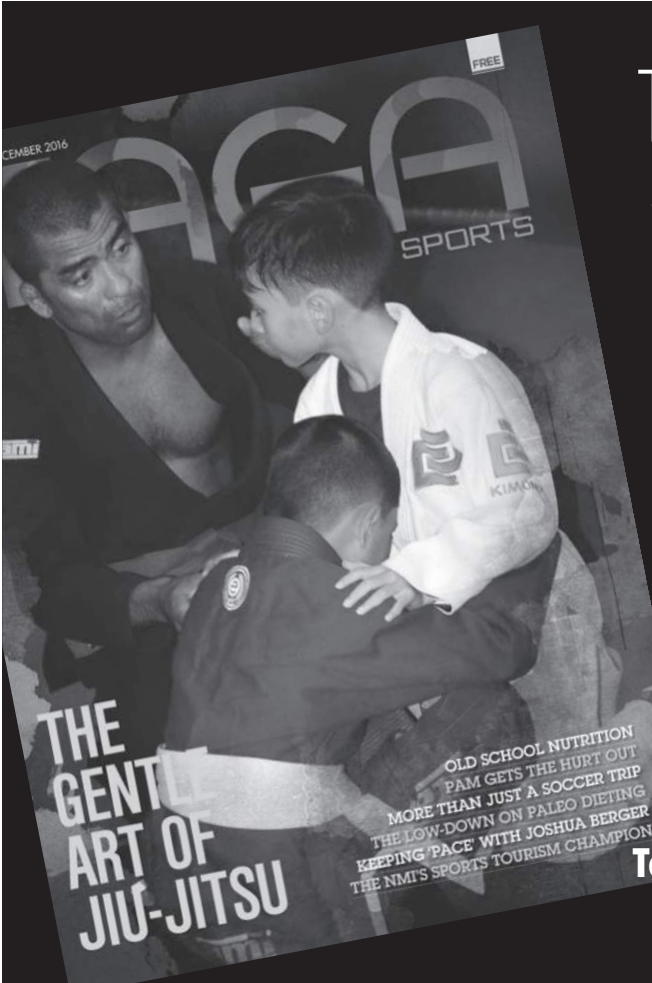
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Celtics win in Detroit on Horford's follow in final seconds



AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP)—Al Horford's follow shot with 1.3 seconds left gave the Boston Celtics a 94-92 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Saturday night.

Isaiah Thomas had 24 points and eight assists for Boston, while Horford added 18 points and 11 rebounds.

Marcus Morris led Detroit with 24 points and Andre Drummond had 20 points and 17 rebounds. The Pistons became the last NBA team to lose at home.

The teams traded the lead for most of the fourth quarter, and Kentavious Caldwell Pope's 3-pointer—his first basket of the game—gave the Pistons an 87-86 lead with 1:54 left. The teams traded dunks, and Thomas hit a layup over Drummond with 1:10 to play to make it 90-89.

Caldwell-Pope missed an open 3, making him 1 for 7 on the night, and Drummond fouled Thomas on another drive. He made both free throws with 30.5 seconds left to give the Celtics a three-point lead, but Tobias Harris hit a tying 3-pointer.

Jae Crowder missed a baseline 3 and Marcus Smart missed a tip-in, but Horford got to the ball and his tip dropped with 1.3 seconds left. Horford then blocked Aron Baynes' jumper at the buzzer.

Warriors 124, Bucks 121

In Milwaukee, Kevin Durant scored 33 points, Klay Thompson had 25 of his 29 in the second half, and Golden State held on to beat Milwaukee for its seventh straight victory.

The Warriors led by as much as 14 before Jabari Parker and Giannis Antetokounmpo led a 13-4 run in the fourth quarter that cut it to 122-120 with about 2 ½ minutes left on

Parker's three-point play.

Rowdy Bucks fans had designs of an upset of Golden State at the Bradley Center, just like last season.

The teams exchanged empty possessions before Draymond Green's sparkling defensive effort with 10 seconds left. Green tipped away an inbounds pass intended for Antetokounmpo, with Thompson getting fouled after securing the loose ball.

Thompson hit both free throws with 8 seconds left for a four-point lead.

Antetokounmpo finished with 30 points, while Parker had 28.

Clippers 102, Bulls 95

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin had 26 points and 13 rebounds, Chris Paul added 19 points and Los Angeles rallied in the fourth quarter to snap Chicago's four-game winning streak.

Maurice Speights scored 11 of his season-high 16 points in the fourth for the Clippers, whose only two losses have come at home to Oklahoma City and Memphis.

Speights' biggest assist came with 49 seconds left. Jamal Crawford missed a 3-pointer and Speights got the rebound. He fed Crawford for a driving reverse layup that restored the Clippers' lead to five points.

Dwyane Wade led Chicago with 28 points, hitting five 3-pointers. Jimmy Butler added 22 points, making 11 of 12 free throws.

Rockets 111, Jazz 102

In Houston, James Harden had 31 points and 10 assists to lead Houston over Utah.

Eric Gordon added 20 points and fellow reserve Nene added a season-high 16 as the Rockets won for the third time in their last four games and improved to 4-1 at home.

The injury-plagued Jazz



AP
Boston Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas (4) drives on Detroit Pistons forward Tobias Harris (34) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Auburn Hills, Mich., Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016.

dropped their third straight game following a 6-2 start to November. Besides Gordon Hayward, the four other Jazz starters had a combined seven years of NBA experience.

Rodney Hood led Utah with 25 points and Trey Lyles had 21. Rudy Gobert added 12 points, 14 rebounds and four blocks.

Harden shook defender Dante Exum and buried a 3-pointer with less than a minute remaining to give Houston an 11-point lead and put away the game for good.

76ers 120, Suns 105

In Philadelphia, Joel Embiid scored a career-high 26 points in 20 minutes, and Philadelphia routed Phoenix for its most convincing win of the season.

Nik Stauskas added a season-high 21 points on 8-for-9 shooting for the Sixers, who have split their last six games after starting the season with seven straight losses. Sergio Rodriguez had eight points, 11 assists and eight rebounds.

Eric Bledsoe led Phoenix (4-10) with 27 points. The Suns have lost three of their first four on their current six-game road trip.

Pelicans 121, Hornets 116, OT

In New Orleans, Anthony Davis had 38 points and 16 rebounds, Jrue Holiday added 22 points and nine assists, and New Orleans beat Charlotte in overtime for its second straight win.

New Orleans (4-10), which hadn't won back-to-back games all season, overcame a 14-point, fourth-quarter deficit and found unlikely bench scoring from guard Langston Galloway to keep Charlotte (8-4) from tying its best franchise start through 12 games.

Galloway finished with 23 points, including 18 in the fourth quarter.

Kemba Walker led the Hornets with 25 points, while Marco Belinelli added 22 points and 10 rebounds. Michael Kidd-Gilchrist added 10 points and 12 rebounds for Charlotte.

Heat 114, Wizards 111

In Washington, Goran Dragic scored 22 points, Hassan Whiteside added 18 and 18 rebounds and Miami held on to beat Washington.

James Johnson had 17 points off the bench for Miami, which scored its most points in a game this season and got its first back-to-back wins.

Dion Waiters scored 16 points to help the Heat total six players in double figures in their first road victory since their season opener at Orlando.

Bradley Beal scored a season-high 34 points for Washington in his second game back from a hamstring injury.

John Wall also hit a season high with 34 points and Marcin Gortat scored 10 along with 16 rebounds. No other Wizards hit double figures on a night Washington lost starting forward Markieff Morris to a sprained right ankle in the second quarter.

Grizzlies 93, Timberwolves 71

In Memphis, Tennessee, JaMychal Green had 19 points and eight rebounds, Zach Randolph added 18 points and seven boards, and Memphis clamped down on defense to beat Minnesota.

The Timberwolves had their worst offensive performance of the season with season lows

in points scored and shooting percentage (39.1 percent)

Mike Conley and Andrew Harrison added 13 points apiece for Memphis, which won its fourth straight. James Ennis finished with 11 points.

Zach LaVine led the Timberwolves with 22 points, providing a third-quarter push when Minnesota tied the game. Karl-Anthony Towns scored 17 points and Gorgui Dieng had nine points and 11 rebounds for Minnesota, which lost its second straight.

Andrew Wiggins, Minnesota's leading scorer at 27.4 points, was limited to seven points and missed nine of his 11 shots.

Magic 95, Mavericks 87

In Orlando, Florida, D.J. Augustin scored 18 points, Serge Ibaka added 15 points and nine rebounds and Orlando beat short-handed Dallas.

In a game that was close throughout, the Magic pulled away late in the fourth quarter. Evan Fournier came through with a 3-pointer and Nikola Vucevic hit two free throws with 1:38 remaining to put it away.

The game was tied eight times and the lead changed six times on the night.

The Mavericks, who were playing without Dirk Nowitzki, Devin Harris and Deron Williams, played efficient at times and was able to hold brief leads. Rookie Jonathan Gibson, who signed as a free agent Friday, led the Mavericks with 26 points. Gibson converted 8 of 16 from the field and 5 of 9 from 3-point range.



LAS VEGAS (AP)—Sergey Kovalev kept coming, and Andre Ward never stopped battling. With the crowd roaring in approval, they put on a fight that lived up to its advance billing.

In the end, Ward won a narrow decision Saturday night to take Kovalev's light heavyweight titles in a battle between two unbeaten boxers.

Ward survived a second-round knockdown and relentless pressure from Kovalev, doing just enough to win by a point on all three ringside scorecards. He remained unbeaten in his last 20 years in the ring, but it wasn't without some moments of worry.

"This was a beautiful thing. We did it baby," Ward said.

Ward pulls off decision win over Kovalev for title

"I'm a five-time world champion in two different weight classes. Man, it's amazing."

All three ringside judges had Ward winning 114-113. The Associated Press had Kovalev ahead 116-111.

"It was a fight of my life," Kovalev said. "I am disappointed in the judges' decision. He got maybe a few rounds, I agree with that. I kept control. I lost maybe three rounds the whole fight."

Ward won all of the last six rounds on two scorecards, and five of six on a third. He won the final round on two of the scorecards.

Kovalev knocked down Ward in the second round and chased him around the ring much of the early part of the fight. But Ward

dug deep and managed to land some good punches of his own in a fight that built to a climax in the later rounds.

The crowd of 13,310 at the T-Mobile Arena was on its feet in the late rounds as the two fighters went after each other, neither giving an inch. In the end, the judges favored Ward's counter punching against the aggressive style of Kovalev.

"We were a little careless with that knockdown in the second round," said Ward's trainer, Virgil Hunter. "But we landed the cleaner punches"

Both fighters were unbeaten with almost identical records. Ward was 30-0 with 15 knockouts and Kovalev was 30-0-1 with 26 knockouts.

It was a classic boxer versus puncher battle, and it looked like the puncher would prevail as Kovalev won the early rounds. But Ward kept punching and landed some good shots of his own in the middle rounds, and there were plenty of close rounds that could have gone either way.

"I knew it was going to be a tough fight - it was the 1st time in my career I was dropped," Ward said. "He did everything I expected him to do. He started to fight like I expected."

Kovalev's promoter, Kathy Duva, said she would use the rematch clause in the contract for a second fight.

"He won the first six rounds so I don't know how he could

lose a decision," Duva said. "I'm happy we had a great fight. Boxing needed a great fight."

The fight was billed as a matchup of U.S. and Russian fighters, with the 2004 Olympic gold medalist Ward against a Russian who lives mostly in the Los Angeles area. It was a classic matchup of puncher versus boxer, and for the early part of the fight the puncher was winning.

Kovalev flashed his power early, hitting Ward with a left hand midway through the first round that briefly wobbled Ward's legs. Ward grabbed and held on and finished the round jabbing at the Russian, but the tone of the fight was set early.

Midway through the second round, both fighters threw right hands but it was Kovalev's that landed flush to the side of Ward's head, putting him on the canvas. He got up quickly and smiles as if not hurt but needed all of his supreme defensive skills to make it out of the round.

Ward seemed unwilling to go inside after that, moving backward and trying to land jabs to control the action. But he abandoned the style that had served him so well over the years and fought moving backward, throwing only one punch at a time, as Kovalev constantly pressed the attack.

Ward did have some moments, including the seventh round when he landed a good left that snapped Kovalev's head back.

Trout, Bryant win baseball's MVP awards



CHICAGO (AP)—While the Los Angeles Angels stumbled, Mike Trout soared again.

Just too good to ignore.

Trout won the AL MVP award Thursday for the second time in three years, and Chicago Cubs third baseman Kris Bryant was voted NL MVP in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

"To win it one time, it's hard to do," Trout said. "Twice, I guess you saw my emotions tonight, it was something special."

While the Angels finished fourth in the AL West, Trout was his usual brilliant self. The center fielder batted .315 with 29 homers, 100 RBIs and 30 steals. He scored 17 percent of Los Angeles' runs, the highest percentage for an AL player since Rickey Henderson with the 1985 New York Yankees.

Trout, who was a unanimous winner in 2014, had finished second in three of the past four years. He becomes the first MVP from a losing team since Alex Rodriguez for Texas in 2003 and just the fifth player ever to accomplish the feat, joining Hall of Famers Ernie Banks (1958 and 1959), Andre Dawson (1987) and Cal Ripken (1991).

"At the end of the season a lot of people were asking me about the same question, you know, if your team has a losing record is it going to hurt you in the MVP?" Trout said.

"With this MVP this year, I guess it doesn't matter."

Bryant hit .292 with 39 homers and 102 RBIs in just his second year in the majors, helping the Cubs to their first World Series title since 1908. The No. 2 overall pick from the 2013 draft becomes just the sixth player to win rookie of the year and MVP in one or consecutive seasons.

"This year has certainly been one of the best years of my life," said Bryant, who is set to get married in January. "I mean winning a World Series, now this, it's just icing on the cake."

The Las Vegas native is the first NL MVP from the Cubs since Sammy Sosa in 1998 and the eighth player from the club to win the award since 1935. The once-forlorn franchise enjoying its best run in decades also had two of the top MVP candidates, with first baseman Anthony Rizzo finishing fourth.

Voting by BBWAA members was completed by the start of the playoffs.

"If it wasn't for Anthony and his protection and guidance, I wouldn't have won this award," Bryant said. "I mean he texted me and I said the same thing to him, I said if it wasn't for you I wouldn't have been able to do this."

Bryant was a runaway winner, grabbing 29 of 30 first-place votes and 415 points. Nationals second baseman Daniel Murphy, who batted .347 for the NL East champions, was the runner-up with the other first-place vote and



245 points. Dodgers short-stop Corey Seager was third after he was the unanimous winner of the NL Rookie of

the Year award on Monday. Seager will look to follow in Bryant's footsteps next year. Bryant was the unanimous

NL Rookie of the Year after he hit .275 with 26 homers and 99 RBIs last season. Bryant joins Dustin Pedroia

AP
In this Sept. 24, 2016, file photo, Los Angeles Angels' Mike Trout watches his RBI-single in the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Houston Astros, in Houston.

(2007-08), Ryan Howard (2005-06) and Cal Ripken (1982-83) as the only players to go Rookie of the Year-MVP in consecutive seasons. Ichiro Suzuki (2001) and Fred Lynn (1975) are the only players to win the awards in the same year.

"Kris is just an impressive young man in every aspect," Cubs owner Tom Ricketts said. "(He) is very mature, professional, light-hearted, but serious at the same time. He's just kind of a dream player for any organization."

Trout received 19 first-place votes and 356 points. Mookie Betts, who batted .318 with 31 homers, 113 RBIs and 26 steals in 158 games for the Boston Red Sox, was second with 311 points, and AL batting champion Jose Altuve of Houston was third. Retiring Red Sox slugger David Ortiz got one first-place vote finished sixth in his final year in the majors.

"A well-deserved honor for a player that puts his name in the MVP conversation year in and year out," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said in a release. "Mike is the consummate team player and deserves every accolade he receives on the field just as he should off of it for the person he is."

Yankees trade McCann, \$11M to Astros for 2 young pitchers

NEW YORK (AP)—Brian McCann still wanted to catch, a lot. So with his options limited in the New York Yankees' lineup, the seven-time All-Star gladly accepted a new opportunity in Houston.

McCann waived his no-trade clause and was sent, along with \$11 million, to the Astros on Thursday for a pair of young minor league pitchers.

The Yankees acquired right-handers Albert Abreu and Jorge Guzman.

"It had to be the right fit," McCann said on a conference call. "It wasn't going to be just anywhere."

McCann's playing time diminished in the second half of the season as rookie Gary Sanchez emerged as a power hitter behind the plate. Sanchez hit 20 home runs in just 53 games.

"It was like nothing I'd ever seen before. He was the best player in the game," McCann said.

The 32-year-old McCann hit

.242 with 20 homers and 58 RBIs this year.

"We entered the offseason with the acquisition of a catcher as a primary focus," Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow said in a statement.

"Brian McCann is a great fit for the Astros as he is not only a good defensive catcher, he is also a left-handed hitter with proven run-producing ability," he said. "His experience and his ability to impact his teammates will be a significant benefit to our team."

Jason Castro made the most starts at catcher for the Astros last year, batting .210 with 11 homers and 32 RBIs.

Evan Gattis, known more for his slugging than his catching, also saw time at the spot.

Houston and the Yankees met in the AL wild-card game in 2015. They both went 84-78 this year and missed the playoffs.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said the trade gives the team financial flex-



AP
In this Monday, Sept. 14, 2015 file photo, New York Yankees catcher Brian McCann loses the baseball after forcing Tampa Bay Rays' Asdrubal Cabrera at home plate on a fielder's choice by Kevin Kiermaier during the second inning of a baseball game in St. Petersburg, Fla.

ibility for potential free agents and trades.

"Houston stepped up and I think all parties got what we wanted," he told reporters.

McCann made 86 starts at catcher last season, his fewest since he was a rookie with Atlanta in 2005. He figured next year in New York likely would mean catching once a week, plus some platoon time as a designated hitter.

"I wanted to catch every day," he said. "I feel like I still have a lot of good years left."

McCann also likes what he sees in the Astros, praising "a lot of great young pieces."

"I wanted to be a part of it,"

he said.

McCann hit 24 homers in 2006 and has hit at least 18 home runs in every season since then. He has 245 career homers with 888 RBIs while batting .266.

This was McCann's third season in New York after signing an \$85 million, five-year deal as a free agent.

McCann is due \$17 million in each of the next two seasons, and the Yankees will pay \$5.5 million both years.

The Yankees had a \$15 million option for 2019 with no buyout. The option became McCann's if he had at least 1,000 plate appearances combined in 2017 and 2018, had at least 90 starts at catcher in 2018 and didn't end up that season on the disabled list.

The 21-year-old Abreu was a combined 3-8 with a 3.72 ERA for two teams in Class A. The 20-year-old Guzman was a combined 3-4 with a 4.05 ERA with two rookie-level teams.

Panthers beat Saints 23-20 in game marred by injuries

C H A R - LOTTE, N.C. (AP)—When Luke Kuechly was carted off the field with a concussion, the tears streaming down his face as he left, it appeared the Carolina Panthers might be ready for another collapse.

Their defensive leader was gone and another big fourth-quarter lead was crumbling.

Instead, the Panthers did just enough to hold on and beat the New Orleans Saints 23-20 on Thursday night in a game marred by injuries to key players.

When Kuechly went down the lead was at 10, and players gathered around him as he was put on a cart near mid-field. Carolina would give up another score, but hold on for its third win in four games.

“We rally behind that guy,” defensive end Charles Johnson said about Kuechly. “He’s our leader. When you see a leader go down like that, we just rally behind him. I’m keeping Luke in my prayers.”

The Panthers, who surrendered a 17-point lead and lost to the Kansas City Chiefs last

week, entered the fourth quarter with a 23-3 lead before injuries began to take their toll. Along with Kuechly, the Panthers lost two-time All-Pro center Ryan Kalil (shoulder), top pass rusher Mario Addison (foot) and cornerback Leonard Johnson (chest) to injuries. The Saints lost running back Mark Ingram to a head injury in the third quarter.

“It was the Grim Reaper walking around out there,” Panthers quarterback Cam Newton said.

Saints quarterback Drew Brees seemed to seize the momentum.

Brees, who had been held to 171 yards and no touchdowns in the first three quarters, rallied the Saints back to 23-20 with touchdown passes to Brandon Coleman and Coby Fleener.

But an 18-yard reception by Kelvin Benjamin on a third-and-10 with 2:39 left in the game proved pivotal, taking enough time off the clock where Brees only had 14 seconds to work with on his final drive. He couldn’t manage to get his team into field goal range.

Newton finished 14 of 33 for 192 yards, including a 40-



yard touchdown pass to Ted Ginn Jr. as the Panthers (4-6) pulled even with the Saints for third place in the NFC South.

“Our mantra is to Keep Pounding and it speaks volumes in situations like this,” Newton said. “I will take an ugly win over a pretty loss.”

Jonathan Stewart also ran for a touchdown and Graham Gano had three field goals.

Carolina’s next two games are on the West Coast - at Oakland and Seattle.

“Hopefully, the time off will give us enough time to heal up for this long road trip,” safety Kurt Coleman said. “And also you wonder if it wasn’t a Thursday game and it was

a Sunday game, would there be these type of injuries? You never know. ... I’m just going to pray for everybody. Not only our team but their team.”

BETTER DEFENSE
Brees finished with 285 yards passing.

That was a dramatic difference from the last time the two teams met on Oct. 16 when Brees threw for 465 yards and four touchdowns in a 41-38 win over the Panthers.

“They did exactly what we hoped and that was keep the ball in front of them,” Rivera said of his young secondary. “You can’t ask for the guys to do a better job.”

KICKING WOES
Saints coach Sean Payton was upset after the game about the team’s continuing struggles on special teams, including a blocked field goal that was returned 73 yards by Kuechly

ALI’I
From Page 28

who finished the half with 16 points after knocking in four triples in the first 20 minutes of play, but misfired in the third.

Mangali still struggled in the fourth as he was limited to one triple, making it hard for Save More to mount a comeback in the final frame.

Guiab, on the other hand, was still on target in the fourth period, adding 8 more points, including Ali’i Blue Haus’ last three field goals, while Demapan registered the team’s first 7 markers in final canto to widen the gap.

Guiab led all scorers with his 22 points, while Demapan earned 21. Three other Ali’i Blue Haus players finished in twin digits with Esdrelon making 15 and Pagarao and Devero having 12 apiece.

Ali’i Blue Haus 100 — Guiab 22, Demapan 21, Esdrelon 15, Pagarao 12, Devero 12, Santos 6, Manalo 4, Fernandez 4, Patawaran 2.

Save More 82 — Mangali 19, Quan 18, Maisa 12, Lilles 11, Backe 10, Sison 6, Guiang 4, Villanueva 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-18, 50-44, 81-56, 100-82.

^{AP}
Carolina Panthers’ Luke Kuechly (59) is taken off the field after being injured in the second half of an NFL football game against the New Orleans Saints in Charlotte, N.C., Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016.

before the half to set up Ginn’s touchdown catch.

Last week the Saints lost to Denver when a potential game-tying extra point was blocked and returned for a 2-point defensive conversion.

“Fundamentally we’ve got to be able to kick an extra point. ... We’ve got to be able to, you know, kick a field goal that’s a makeable one,” Payton said. “We’ve just struggled in that area. It cost us at New York, it cost us last weekend

(against) Denver and it cost us again tonight. And we’ve got to be smart enough in the game early to understand that the turnovers aren’t good.”

LOSE SOME, WIN SOME
Maybe Ginn is just too fast for officials.

In the first quarter Ginn appeared to score on a 14-yard run, but officials reviewed the play and ruled his knee was down at the 1-yard line taking away a touchdown. Then, in the closing seconds of the second quarter, officials ruled Ginn was out of bounds on a pass from Cam Newton. But after instant replay officials overturned the ruling and gave Ginn a 40-yard touchdown catch.

Thanksgiving v-ball tourney set; no open gym at Ada this week

The Co-Ed Thanksgiving Spike Fest will kick off today at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With the tournament to be played on Nov. 21, 23, 25, and 26, the Northern Marianas Sports Association, which operates the facility, has announced the suspension of the “open gym” this week.

The tournament will have two divisions: recreational and competitive. Each team

is allowed to have a maximum of eight players. At least three females should be on the court at all times. Males are not allowed to spike or hit inside the 10-foot line.

Each match will be played in a best-of-three format with the first two sets race to 25, while the third, if necessary, is race to 15.

For more information, contact Preston Basa at 989-2516. (Saipan Tribune)

TANAPAG

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Jin Ju Thompson, Sam Ryu, and Edward Kim, who clocked in at 3:35.24. The same quartet also won the mixed 200m freestyle relay over Whispering Palms after submitting 2:27.73 against the latter’s 4:12.57.

In the individual races, Jinnosuke was unchallenged in the 11 to 12’s 200m and 400m freestyle. Lennosuke had the same good fate in the over 13’s 200m free and 200m IM, Susana in the girls 11 to 12’s 50m breaststroke, and Leo in the boys 11 to 12’s 50m breaststroke, and Rinto in the over 11’s 100m breaststroke.

In other results, Tenorio won his two individual races.

KANOA

From Page 28

ity. The first half ended with Kanoa holding on to a 1-0 advantage, thanks to John Mark Anastacio’s goal in the 25th minute off a follow up from Daniel Mar Pablo’s miss. Pablo let go a right cross, but MP United goalie Richard Steele deflected the ball. Fortunately, Anastacio was at the right place at the right time to kick the ball anew and made the goal.

Kanoa retained the shaky lead in the early goings of the second half before Basnet’s persistence was rewarded 15 minutes into the second half.

After Basnet’s shot, Kanoa quickly ran an offensive set with Pablo making a forward pass. Maniago then went after

He logged 35.36 seconds in the over 13’s 50m backstroke to top Richard (45.83), Hopwood’s Dan Illahi (53.21), and Whispering Palms’ Dan Weaver (1:14.07). In the 100m backstroke, Tenorio completed the two-lap race in 1:17.85 to defeat Dane Hodges (3:28.14).

Villagomez had a first place finish in the 50m freestyle (34.38 seconds), downing Leo (36.39 seconds), Whispering Palms’ Zion Okano (51.98), SCS’ Derrick Seo (55.05), and Weaver (55.97 seconds). Richard’s younger sister Susana also did the 50m freestyle and posted 42.64 to place ahead of SCS’ Chloe Seo (1:09.67) and Katie Choi (1:13.52).

In the 50m butterfly, Watanabe’s 35.92 seconds edged the

the ball, while MP United’s Jeremiah Diaz was lagging behind thinking the Kanoa player will dribble out, but he did not. Instead, Maniago went for a cross, catching Steele flat-footed and giving Kanoa the lead anew.

Maniago was not done yet as three minutes later he chased another forward pass, this time coming from goalie Merrick Toves, whose long heave drop at the center near the box and again with no MP United defenders in sight. Without any help defense from his teammates, Steele was forced to move closer to Maniago, who managed to kick the ball just before the former clamped down on him for Kanoa’s 3-1 advantage at the 43rd mark of the division-

37.75 of Jin Ju Thompson, while Marquez’s 1:14.13 was runner-up to the 32.80 seconds of Hopwood’s Nelson Batallones. Leo also placed second in the 100m freestyle with his 1:15.17 beating the 1:21.29 of Joseph Zhang of Dandan and behind the 1:06.55 of Batallones.

Tanapag’s nine students were among the 105 swimmers who joined the All Schools meet.

“We had great numbers and we hope this event will inspire others to try out the sport of swimming. The CNMI has a rich history of great swimmers and this is where most got their start. Thank you for being a part of this history,” said SSC head coach Jacoby Winkfield.

title deciding game.

Now down by two with the clock ticking, MP United made repeated attempts to score, but Kanoa’s defense was almost always there to stop its foe. Kanoa knew well that MP United will frequently go to either Basnet or Rintaro Miyawaki. Miyawaki then finally delivered off a pass from Basnet, but the former’s goal was a little bit late as it came with only four minutes left in the match.

Kanoa went on to spend the remainder of the game preventing MP United from getting clear position to save its lead and eventually dethrone the three-time champion and join its opponent and Tan-Holdings (2014 fall season champion) in the elite circle of the division.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

American Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	8	4	.667	—
Boston	7	6	.538	1½
New York	5	7	.417	3
Brooklyn	4	8	.333	4
Philadelphia	3	10	.231	5½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	9	3	.750	—
Charlotte	8	4	.667	1
Orlando	6	7	.462	3½
Miami	4	8	.333	5
Washington	3	9	.250	6

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	10	2	.833	—
Chicago	8	5	.615	2½
Indiana	6	7	.462	4½
Detroit	6	8	.429	5
Milwaukee	5	7	.417	5

Western Conference

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	10	3	.769	—
Memphis	8	5	.615	2
Houston	8	5	.615	2
New Orleans	4	10	.286	6½
Dallas	2	10	.167	7½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	8	5	.615	—
Portland	7	7	.500	1½
Utah	7	7	.500	1½
Denver	4	8	.333	3½
Minnesota	4	8	.333	3½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	12	2	.857	—
Golden State	11	2	.846	½
L.A. Lakers	7	6	.538	4½
Sacramento	4	9	.308	7½
Phoenix	4	10	.286	8

NFL STANDINGS

American Conference

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	2	0	.778	241	163
Miami	5	4	0	.556	204	206
Buffalo	4	5	0	.444	237	203
N.Y. Jets	3	7	0	.300	179	244

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	6	3	0	.667	161	188
Tennessee	5	5	0	.500	264	251
Indianapolis	4	5	0	.444	239	256
Jacksonville	2	7	0	.222	174	239

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	5	4	0	.556	182	160
Pittsburgh	4	5	0	.444	214	206
Cincinnati	3	5	1	.389	187	210
Cleveland	0	10	0	.000	175	301

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	7	2	0	.778	205	168
Oakland	7	2	0	.778	245	223
Denver	7	3	0	.700	239	189
San Diego	4	6	0	.400	292	278

National Conference

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	8	1	0	.889	258	170
N.Y. Giants	6	3	0	.667	182	184
Washington	5	3	1	.611	212	209
Philadelphia	5	4	0	.556	226	160

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	6	4	0	.600	320	283
Tampa Bay	4	5	0	.444	216	242
New Orleans	4	6	0	.400	285	286
Carolina	4	6	0	.400	244	246

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Detroit	5	4	0	.556	205	206
Minnesota	5	4	0	.556	175	152
Green Bay	4	5	0	.444	223	234
Chicago	2	7	0	.222	141	215

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	6	2	1	.722	193	158
Arizona	4	4	1	.500	202	160
Los Angeles	4	5	0	.444	139	173
San Francisco	1	8	0	.111	187	283

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2016 NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Agape Christian School students are well represented in the 2016 NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships held last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.



Race director Robin Sapong of Northern Marianas Athletics gives instructions to runners.



Runners jump off the rope as they head to the course.



Saipan International School and Saipan Community School students wait for the start of the 3.5-kilometer race.



Students in red and blue shirt enjoy an early morning run along the fairways of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.



Elementary school runners head out to the course.



An elementary school student keeps pace with two high school runners.



Runners in the U7, U9, and U11 age group head out to the 1-kilometer course.



**Celtics win
in Detroit on
Horford's follow
in final seconds**

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**Trout, Bryant
win baseball's
MVP awards**

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28 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kanoa dethrones MP United



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kanoa Football Club's Brian Lubao, left, kicks the ball, while MP United's Rohan Basnet goes for a header during the first half of their playoff game for the co-ed U12 division championship in the NMIFA fall youth league last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club grabbed the co-ed U12 division championship from MP United after pulling off a 3-2 victory in their playoff match in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Kanoa took its first U12 title, which MP United held for three straight seasons (2015 spring and fall and 2016 fall). MP United and Kanoa had to play the rubber for the fall championship after they ended up with the same record (7-0-1 win-draw-loss mark) in the double-round robin regular season.

Jim Kurt Maniago, probably the smallest player on the

field, but the fastest too, towed Kanoa to the division championship after scoring a pair of goals in the playoff game. His first came just one minute after MP United equalized, 1-1, off Rohan Basnet's goal in the 40th minute.

Basnet's goal was recorded after his numerous attempts in the first half went into futility.

See KANOA on Page 26

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tanapag Middle School wins



Tanapag Middle School ruled its division contest in the 22nd Saipan Swim Club All Schools Swim Meet held early this month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Tanapag scored 186 points—the second most in the entire field of the meet behind Brilliant Stars' 216—to top the middle school category and beat Whispering Palms (90 points) and Hopwood Junior High School (76 points). Grace Christian Academy, Saipan Community School, and Dandan Middle



School also joined the Nov. 12 competition and were ranked fourth, fifth, and sixth in the division after gaining 63, 25, and 15 points, respectively.

The middle school champion banked on brothers Lenosuke and Jinnosuke Suzuki, siblings Leo and Rinto Takahashi and Richard and Susana

Villagomez, Jimmy Marquez, Juhn Tenorio, and Aika Watanabe to prevail against five other schools.

Tenorio, Watanabe, Rinto, and Lenosuke teamed up in the mixed 200m medley relay and timed in at 2:21.24 to down GCA's Claire Marzan,

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Ali'i Blue Haus unbeaten in regular season

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Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani finished the regular season of the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League with an unblemished record following its 100-82 victory over Save More/MIFICPA following last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Ali'i Blue Haus, the first automatic semifinalist in the nine-team field, wrapped up the single-eliminated round with an impressive 8-0 record, while Save More continued its roller-coaster ride this season after falling to a 3-4 record.

Save More, which has one more game left (against Arimatech), kept pace with Ali'i Blue Haus in the first half, facing only a 44-50 deficit, but its so-so offense in the third quarter stood no chance against its streaking opponent. Ali'i Blue Haus exploded

ed for 31 points in the pivotal third canto, while Save More was held to 5 field goals and 12 points.

Ali'i Blue Haus ran a balance offense in its third-quarter breakaway with Junar Guiab leading the assault for the pennant champion. Guiab scored 10 points in the penultimate frame, while his seven other teammates also hit the board in the third. Bart Demapan, Ivan Devero, and Edwin Santos chipped in 4 apiece, Elmer Esdrelon contributed 3, and Sam Fernandez, Manolo Manalo, and Lerio Pag-arao added 2 each.

Only three players scored for Save More in their lackluster showing in the third canto. Chris Liles posted 5 points, while Ariel Maisa and Sid Quan logged 4 and 3 markers, respectively. Save More clearly missed the production of Elgene Mangali,

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ali'i Blue Haus' Junar Guiab unloads an uncontested layup during their game against Stephen's Pawnshop in the UFO caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.